2023 NEW YORK YANKEES

OFFICIAL YEARBOOK

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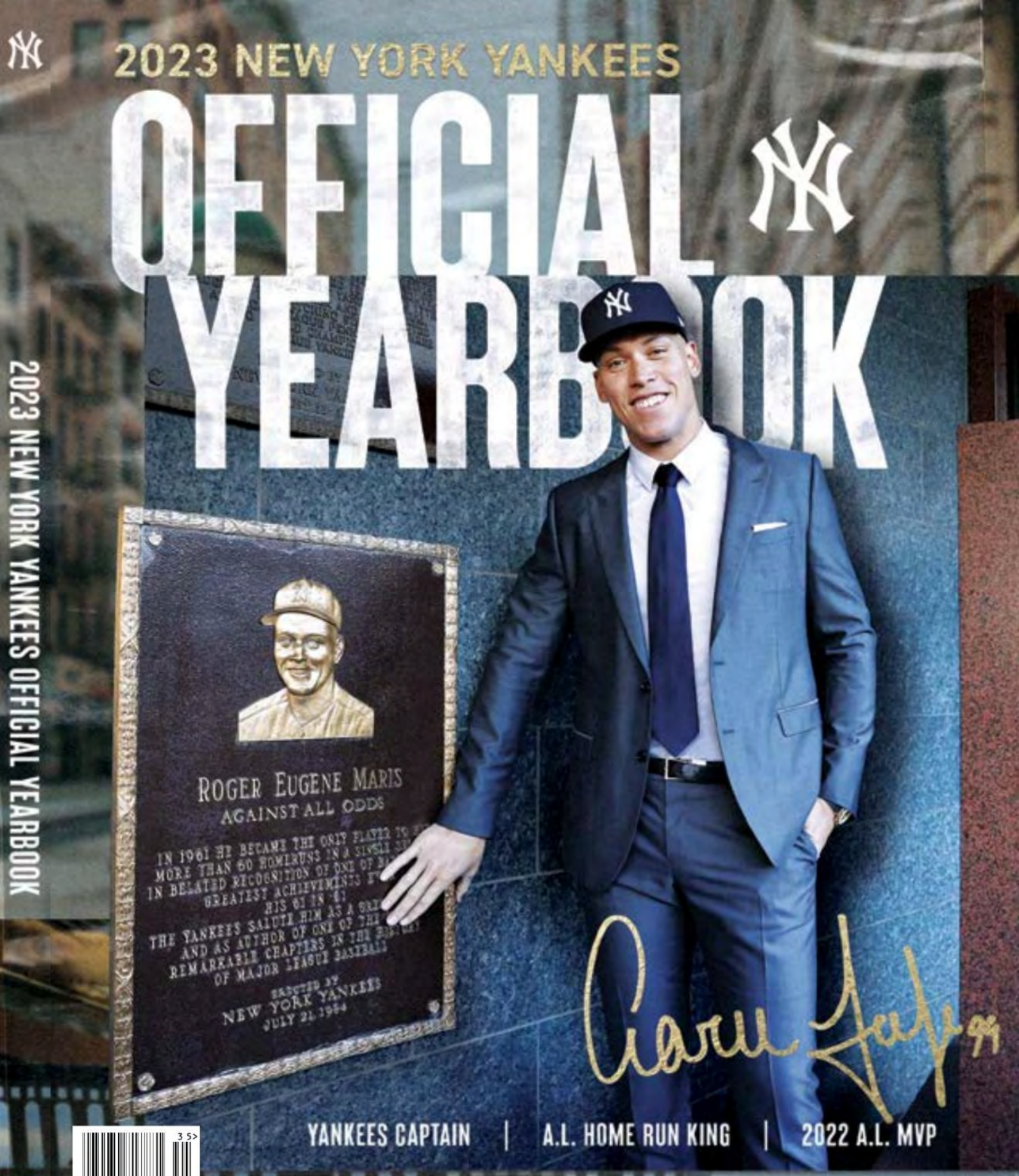

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Go where game day takes you.

Start at the diner. Pancakes and an omelet.
In your lucky booth. Naturally.

Then, get to the game early. Right on time for warm-ups.
Your secret spot is open. Back in. Honk four times.
Never three, never five.

Now, let's play ball. Do the wave. Catch a homer.
Eat some peanuts. Do the wave. Meet some strangers.
Stretch it out. Do the wave. Extra innings? Here we go.
The windup. The pitch. The swing. The contact!

It's going. They're on their feet. It's going. It's got
the distance. It's got the height. See ya.

But game day isn't over.
A slice to celebrate. The taste of victory.
"Did that just happen?" The sound of victory.

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Until next time.
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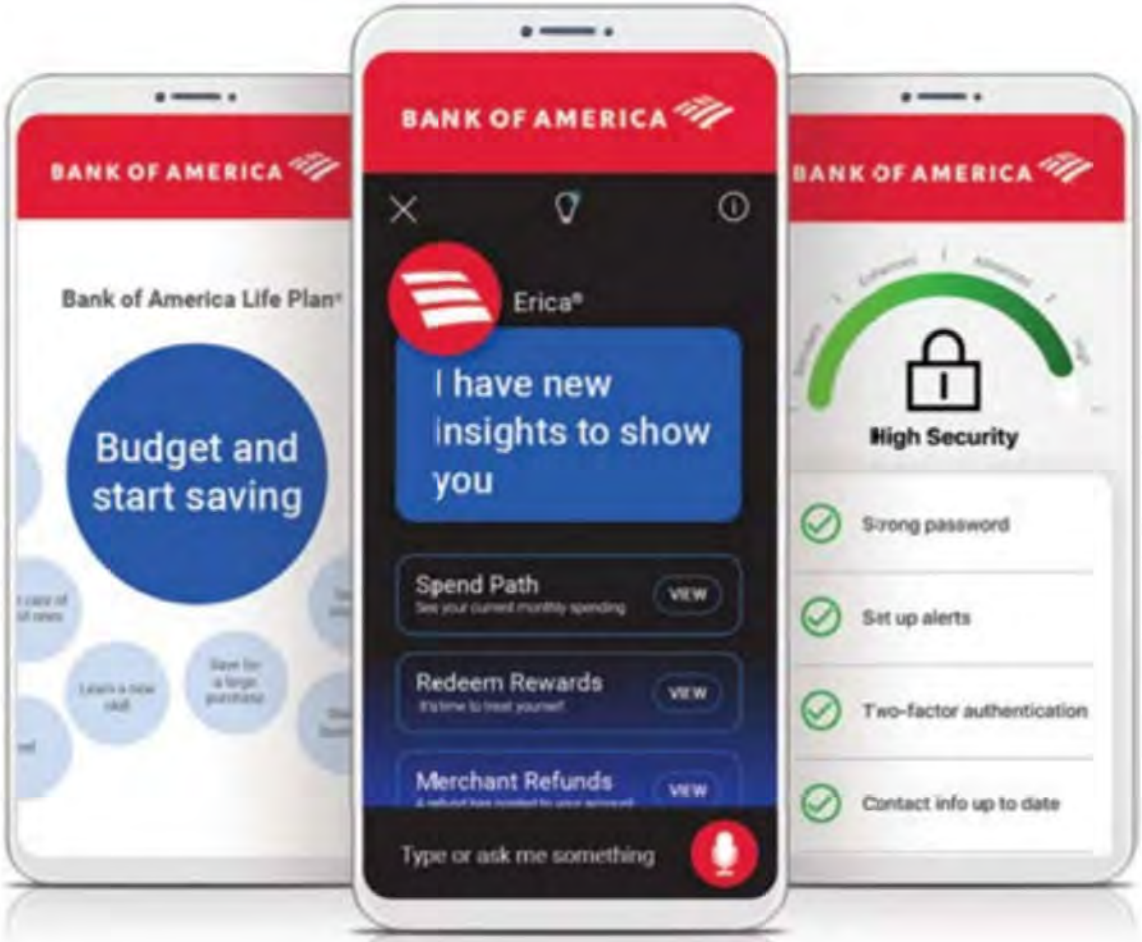

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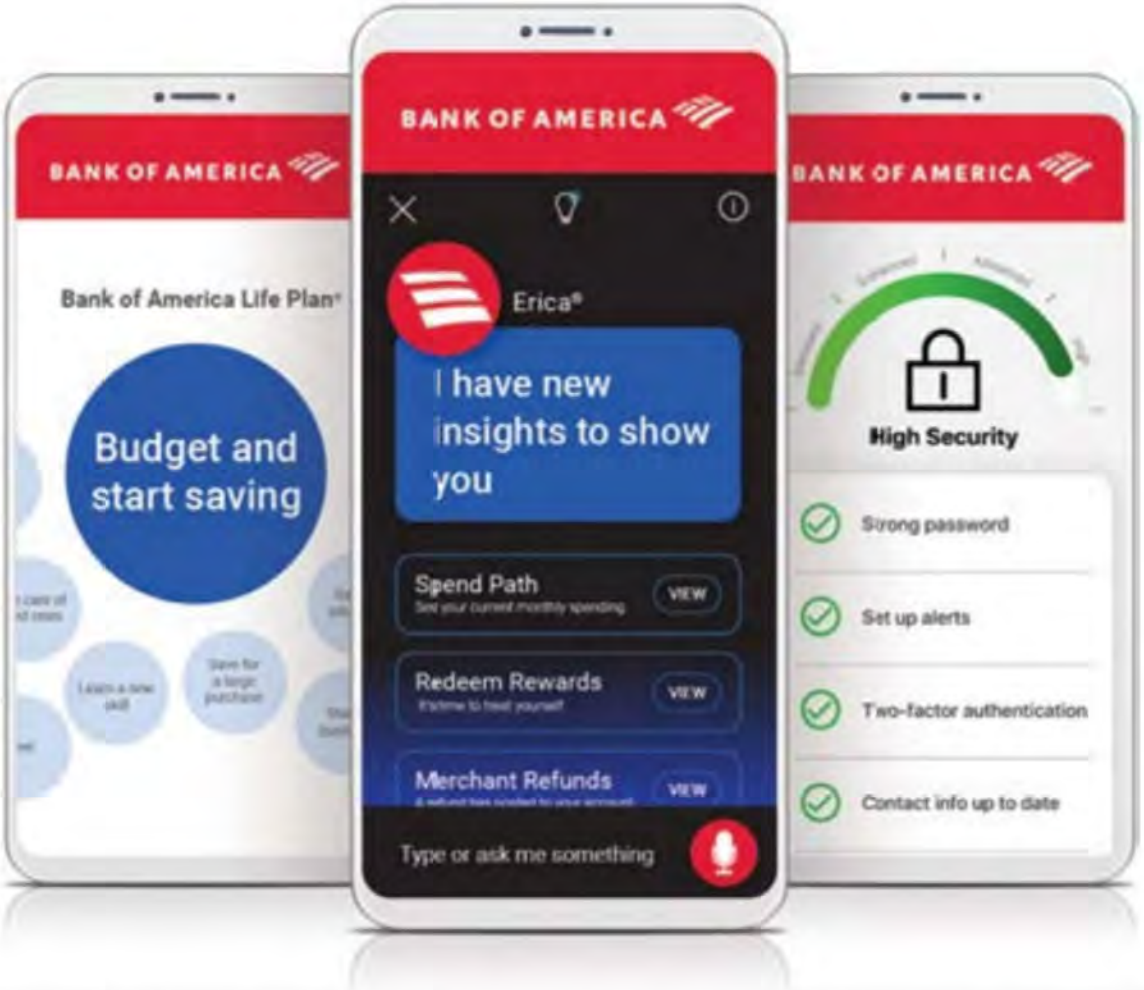

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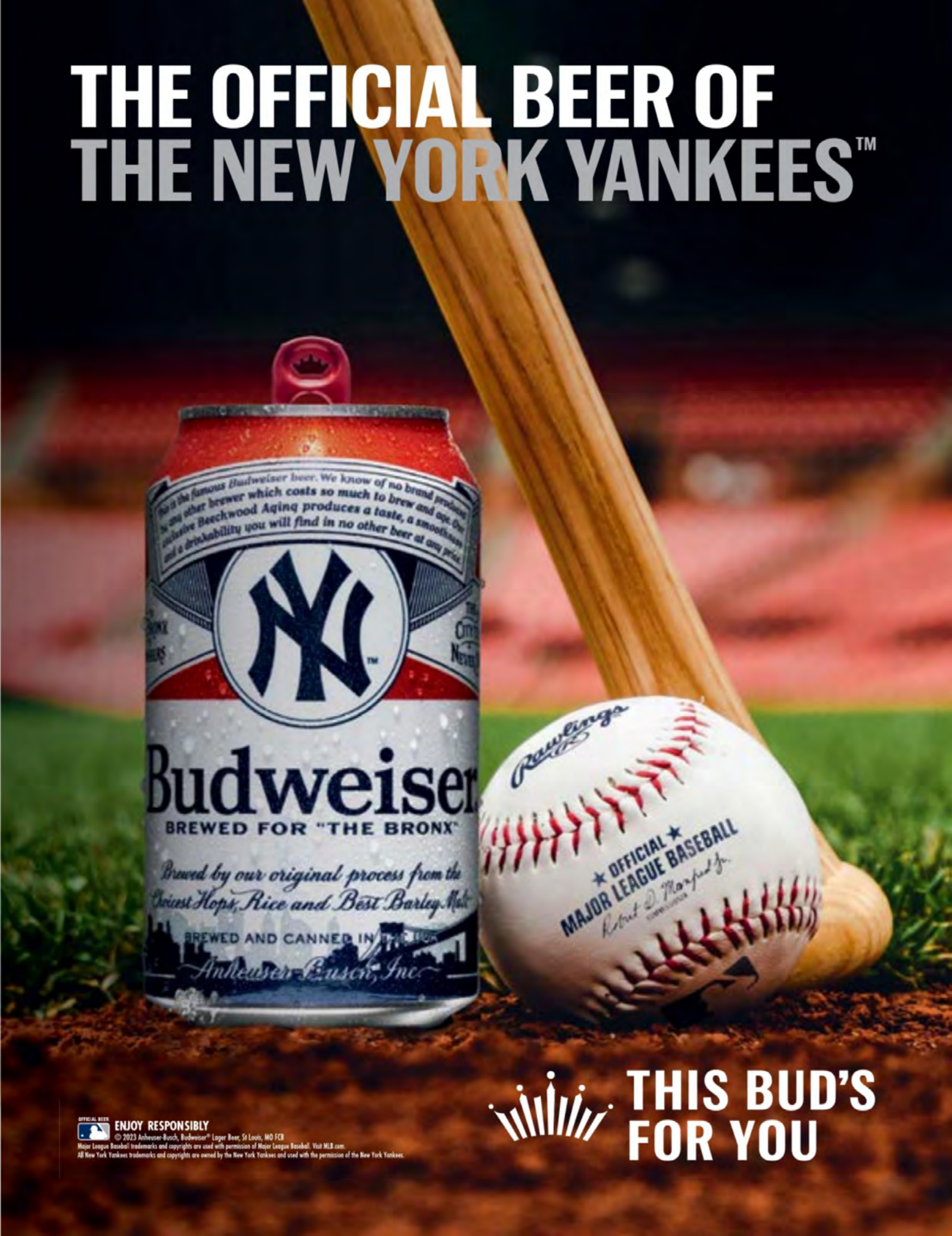

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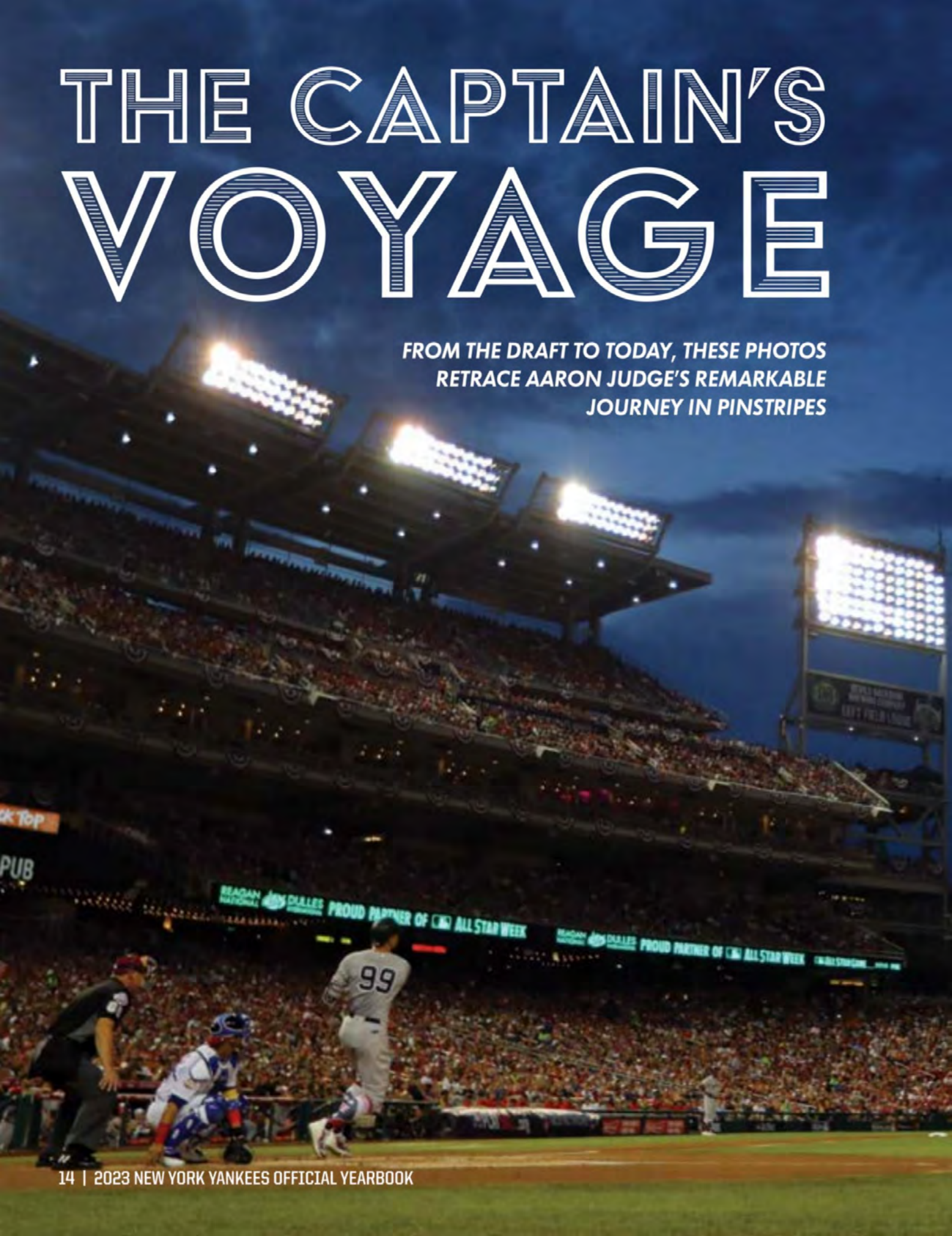
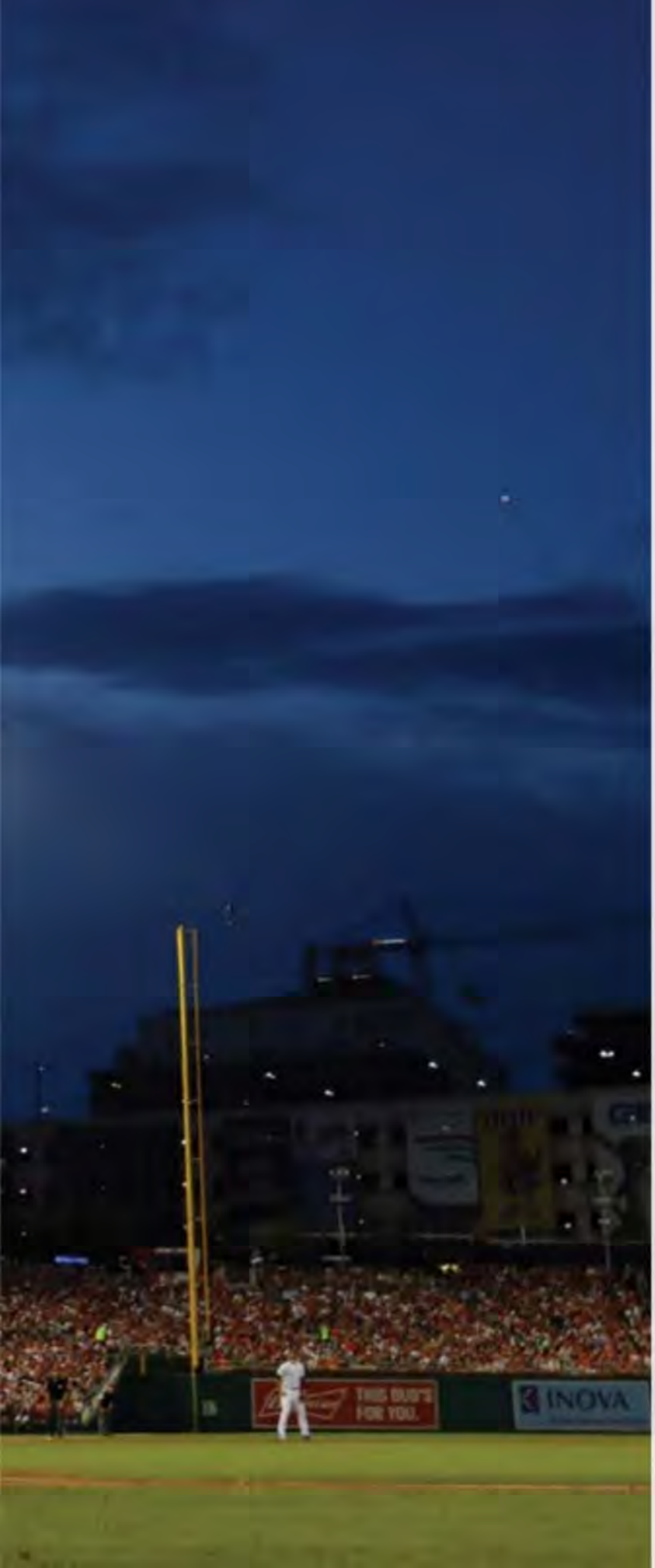
THE CAPTAIN'S VOYAGE

FROM THE DRAFT TO TODAY, THESE PHOTOS RETRACE AARON JUDGE'S REMARKABLE JOURNEY IN PINSTRIPES





It seems impossible to fathom a decade later, but way back in 2013, Aaron Judge had plenty of doubters on draft day.

He had forged an impressive career at Fresno State in which he made first team all-conference twice and won the 2012 college home run derby. His coaches all raved about the things that don't show up in box scores: his defense in center field, his baserunning skills, his mental makeup.

And yet, scouts remained skeptical. It wasn't that they weren't impressed by what they had seen and heard. It was just that there was no comp for a player of his size. In the entire history of Major League Baseball, there had never been such a massive outfielder. With a frame that large and a strike zone to match, they projected a guy who might hit 40 home runs someday, but who also might strike out too much or whose body might break down to warrant spending a high draft pick on.

And so, as the names of the 2013 first-round picks were announced inside MLB Network's Studio 42 in Secaucus, New Jersey, that June day, Aaron Judge sat in the studio's dugout alongside his parents, Wayne and Patty, and waited for his name to be called. After the first 30 players were selected, just about every team — including the Yankees — had passed on him.

The Yankees, in truth, were extremely high on Judge. But they made a calculated bet that he would still be available when their compensation pick from Cleveland for having signed free-agent Nick Swisher came up at No. 32. So, they selected Notre Dame third baseman Eric Jagielo at No. 26 and held their breath.

"The 20 minutes between 26 and 32," Yankees scout Brian Barber told MLB.com, "the heart rate was definitely elevated."

As the compensation round began, Judge thought about excusing himself to use the restroom. But just as he was about to get up, he heard Commissioner Bud Selig: "With the 32nd selection of the 2013 first-year player draft, the New York Yankees select Aaron Judge, a center fielder from Fresno State University, Fresno, California."

Looking back now, Yankees fans shudder to think what might have happened. Instead, the baseball gods decreed that Judge should be a Yankee, a pairing that has turned out to be a match made in heaven. The humble, hard-working slugger has spent the last decade wowing crowds, making fans and rewriting record books. His trophy case overflows with awards, and when he became a free agent last offseason, it didn't take him long to re-sign with the Yankees, who named him the 16th captain in team history.

"Just a dream come true," Judge said that day in Secaucus. "Everyone wants to be a Yankee, so, I was glad when I got my name called."

The photos on the pages ahead are a reminder of why millions of people agree.

AARON JUDGE

JUNE 6, 2013

TRIPLE-A, 2015

FIRST CAREER HOME RUN, AUG. 13, 2016

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FIRST POSTSEASON HOME RUN, OCT. 3, 2017

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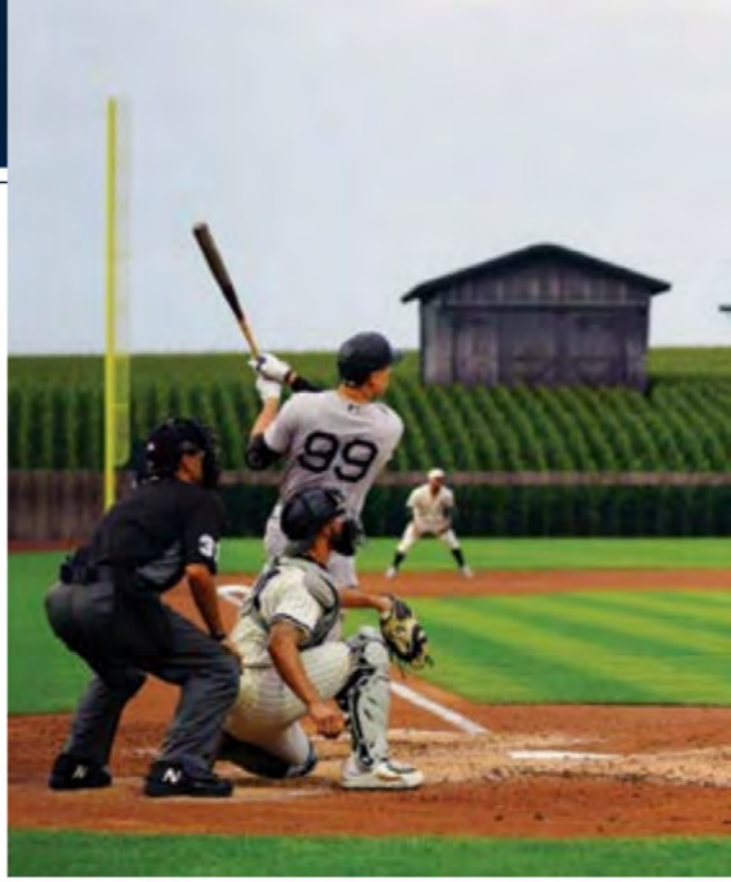
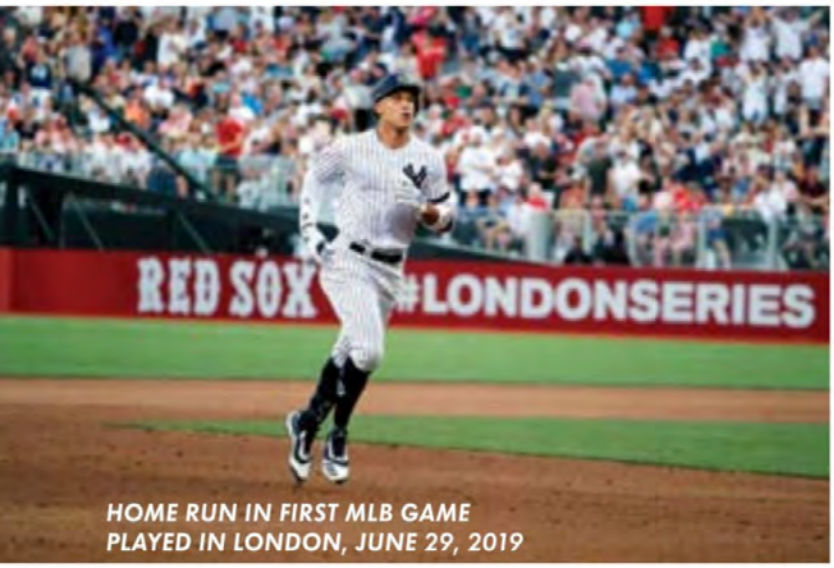
FIRST ALL-STAR GAME HOME RUN, 2018





HOME RUN IN FIRST MLB GAME PLAYED IN LONDON, JUNE 29, 2019

FIRST WALK-OFF HIT, OCT. 3, 2021

JUDGE

AUG. 12, 2021

2022 YANKEES ALL-STARS

AARON JUDGE

62ND HOME RUN OF SEASON, OCT. 4, 2022

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THE PERFECT SEASON

AARON JUDGE authored a performance in 2022 that was as complete as it was historic — but not without plenty of drama down the stretch

By Alfred Santasiere III

There are two larger-than-life bobbleheads on the Main Level concourse at Yankee Stadium, depicting two of the greatest players in Yankees history. Just behind the press box, fans often stop to photograph the giant plastic statues of Babe Ruth and Mickey Mantle. But for all the accomplishments that these two Hall of Famers achieved, their names are not linked to each other in the same way that each is linked to Roger Maris.

Decades after Ruth set the single-season record for home runs with 60 in 1927, Maris eclipsed it, smashing 61 in 1961, forever linking his career with that of the Great Bambino. During that magical summer of '61, Mantle gave Maris — and Ruth — a run for his money, but tapped out at a career-high 54 home runs.

The Mantle bobblehead celebrates the center fielder's most storied season, which was not 1961. It instead features the slugger wearing a crown and holding three bats, each with a number on it. In 1956, Mantle became just the second Yankees player ever to win the American League Triple Crown, pacing the Junior Circuit with 52 home runs, 130 RBI and a .353 batting average. Only Lou Gehrig had ever accomplished the feat in pinstripes, having done so in 1934.

More than six decades have passed since Mantle won the coveted title, and since then, in either league, only Baltimore's Frank Robinson, Boston's Carl Yastrzemski and Detroit's Miguel Cabrera have brought home the triptych honor. Almost 100 years have gone by since Ruth hit 60 homers in 1927, and save for a controversial four-year span in which National League sluggers Mark McGwire, Sammy Sosa and Barry Bonds eclipsed Ruth's total six times, Maris was the only player to have so much as matched 60.

When the dust settled on the Yankees' 2022 regular season, Aaron Judge had put together a performance that eclipsed those of Ruth in '27 and Maris in '61, and for all intents and purposes, was somewhere between comparable and superior to what Mantle and the other Triple Crown winners accomplished in their respective seminal years.

Judge finished the regular season with a .311 batting average, falling five points shy of Luis Arraez of the Minnesota Twins for the final piece of the American League

A version of this feature originally appeared in the October 2022 issue of Yankees Magazine.

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YORK

Triple Crown. But, in the grand scheme of things, especially in light of Judge's overall body of work, his second-place finish in batting average will likely become a historical footnote. In almost every meaningful batting category, Judge paced not just the Junior Circuit, but also the majors.

In the second-to-last regular-season game, Judge launched his American League–record 62nd home run into the left-field seats at Globe Life Field in Arlington, Texas. Judge also finished the campaign at the top of the major league charts with 391 total bases, 133 runs, 90 extra-base hits, a .425 OBP and a .686 slugging percentage. Judge's 131 RBI led the AL and were tied with Pete Alonso of the New York Mets for the major league lead, and with 111 walks, the Yankees' slugger stood atop the AL and ranked second in the bigs.

Remarkably, Judge's defensive play — split between center and right fields over 129 games — was as impressive as what he did at the plate, yet much less celebrated. In 275 chances, Judge was perfect, finishing the season without a single error.

It was, of course, the 62 homers that inspired the most awe. To nearly no one's surprise, Judge won his first AL MVP Award in decisive fashion, garnering 28 of 30 first-place votes.

More than just eye-popping figures on the back of his baseball card, Judge's home runs, more often than not, contributed to a more significant ledger: the Yankees' 99 wins and AL East championship.

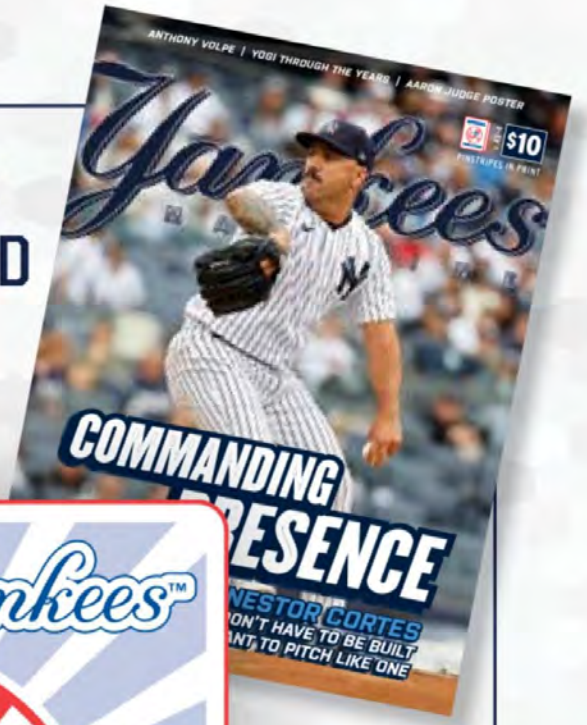
Case in point: In front of a packed house at Yankee Stadium on Sept. 20, Judge led off the bottom of the ninth against Pittsburgh, but things were not looking good for the Yankees, who trailed the Pirates, 8-4.

Every fan in the Stadium had held their breath during each of Judge's previous at-bats that night. With the outfielder sitting on 59 home runs, they were in the Bronx to witness history, and that was made clear by the atmosphere in the Stadium whenever Judge was up.

The slugger's ninth-inning at-bat was no different. Despite the team's four-run deficit, Judge was greeted with a standing

Just three American League players have reached the 60-home run threshold, and all three did it in pinstripes. Like Ruth [top L] and Maris [top R] before him, Judge tormented Junior Circuit pitchers for six arduous months, then reveled in the joy of an incredible achievement.

THE YANKEES LIKE YOU'VE NEVER HEARD THEM BEFORE



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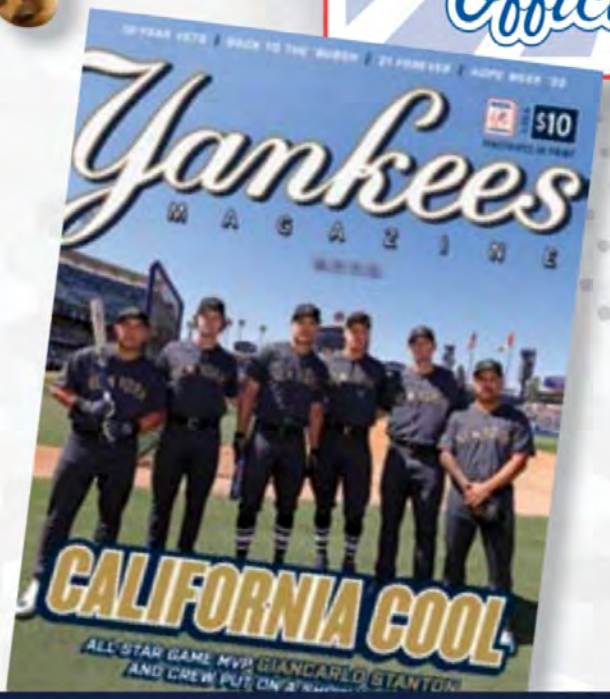

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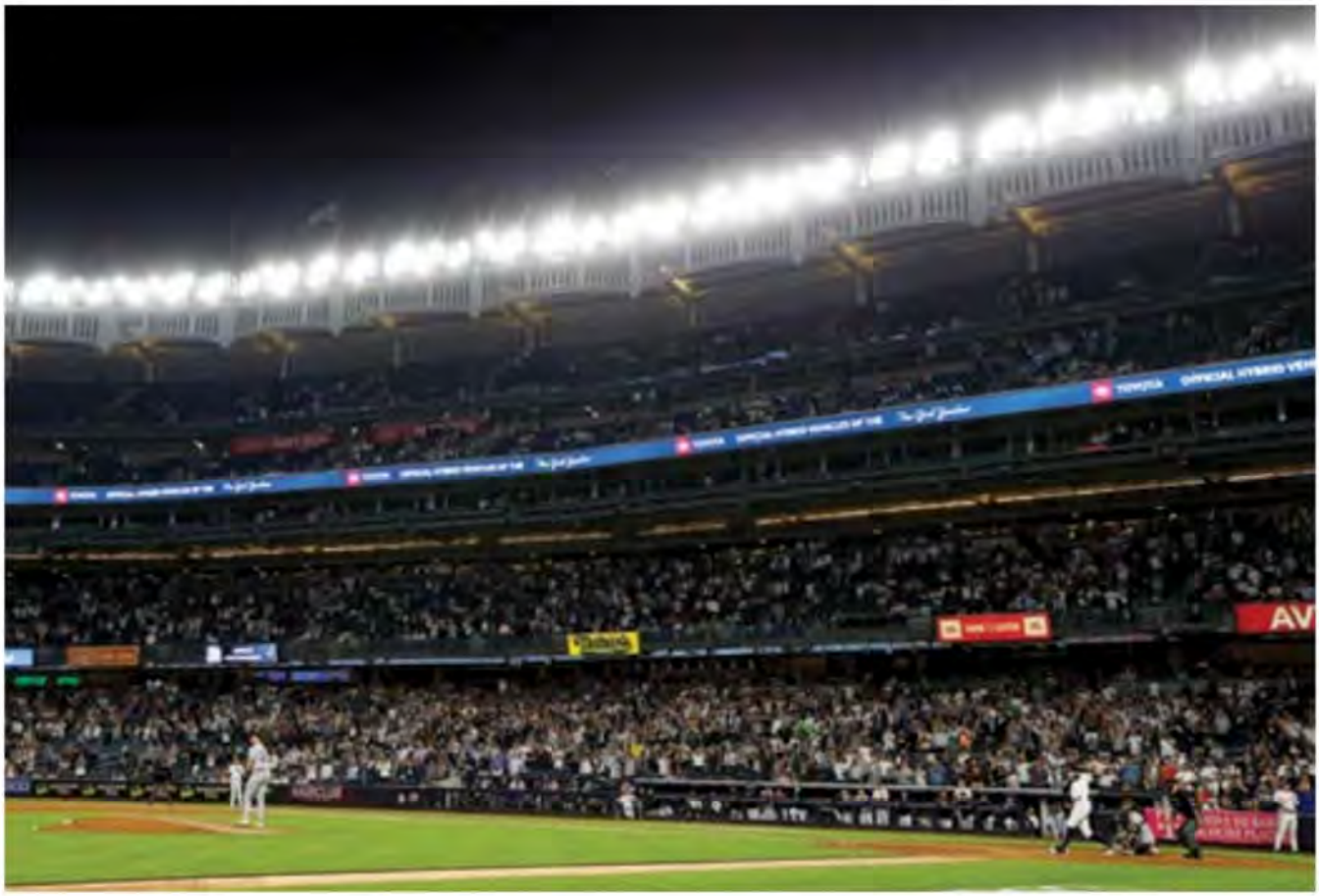
ovation as he stepped into the box to face Wil Crowe. Then, an eerie silence hovered over the Stadium. So silent was it that when Crowe's first offering hit Pittsburgh catcher Jason Delay's mitt, the smack of the baseball into the leather echoed at least as high up as the level where the Mantle and Ruth bobbleheads reside. The same silence preceded each pitch that brought the count to 3-1. Then, Judge did what he had done at an incredible rate last season: He launched home run No. 60 deep into the left-center field bleachers.

No. 60 came in his team's 147th game — worth noting because when Ruth reached the same number, baseball had yet to expand its slate from 154 games to 162.

From silence to an absolute frenzy, the atmosphere in the Stadium resembled something between a rock concert and the final out of a postseason victory. As Judge hustled around the bases in the same humble fashion that he exemplified when he hit his first career home run in 2016, the giant video board in center field showed images of Judge and Ruth, permanently linking them together, in Yankees history and in baseball lore. For manager Aaron Boone, it wasn't the photos on the scoreboard that caught his attention. "When he was running around the bases, I just kept seeing 60 on the board," Boone said after the game. "That was hard for me to grip. It's one of those almost unreachable numbers." Moments later, Boone was asked about McGwire, Sosa and Bonds, all of whom surpassed the "unreachable" total while he was playing.

"When you think about the context of this season, it makes what Aaron is doing that much more spectacular," Boone said. "When I was playing, guys were routinely hitting in the 50s, 60s and even 70s, but they were all bunched up. That's not happening now. For Aaron to be that far ahead of the field, while also getting on base as often as he is, pushing for a batting title, that puts what he's doing on a different level from what those guys did. That makes it even more amazing. We're going to look back at that in awe 50 or 100 years from now."



Home run No. 60 looked like it would be the highlight of an otherwise forgettable night, as the blast came leading off the ninth inning with the Yankees down by four runs. But when the Bombers rallied all the way back and won the game on a Giancarlo Stanton walk-off grand slam, the team-first Judge was able to celebrate his new round-numbered milestone in earnest.

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As first baseman Anthony Rizzo followed Judge to the plate, the Yankee Stadium crowd continued to cheer for its hero. Reluctantly, Judge emerged from the dugout for a curtain call.

"I was just trying to help my team win," Judge said afterward from the Yankee Stadium press conference room, with his parents, his wife, Samantha, and four of Maris' children looking on. "That's what was important in that moment; trying to come back against a tough closer."

That's exactly what happened. Four batters after Judge made history, Giancarlo Stanton — whose 59 homers in 2017 with Miami had been the most of any major leaguer since Bonds hit 73 in 2001 — lined a game-winning grand slam into the left-field seats.

"Aaron definitely ignited a magical spark, leading off with a home run," Boone said. "That was special."

"We worked hard until the very end," Judge said. "I will remember that signature Giancarlo Stanton home run. He's seen it all; he's done it all. He's helped me grow as a player by leaps and bounds."

Although Judge would have preferred to keep the press conference focused on team-oriented topics, it was only a matter of time before he was asked what it meant to reach the Babe's seemingly mythical total.

"It's tough to stay," said Judge, wearing a sleeveless T-shirt and his pinstriped uniform pants. "I don't think about the numbers. But when you talk about Ruth and Maris, players who did so many great things in the game, you never imagine that you're going to be mentioned with them. That's an incredible honor. It's something that I don't take lightly."

There's no question that chasing a record gets more stressful as the accomplishment gets closer. It's well documented that the pressure in 1961 hovered over Maris like a dark cloud, partly because of the negative treatment he endured for "daring" to outperform the much more popular Mantle and for attempting to break the beloved Ruth's record. But in 2022, Judge had overwhelming support, and he seemed to smile even more often than he reached base.

"I'm trying to enjoy it," Judge said. "I'm trying to soak it all in, but I have a job to do every day. I have to keep my head down and stay focused."

As Judge left the stage in the press conference room, Stanton sat down. One of the only people on the planet truly able to understand the pressure of staring down 60 home runs, which he did in the last days of the 2017 season, Stanton was asked how he approached those games.

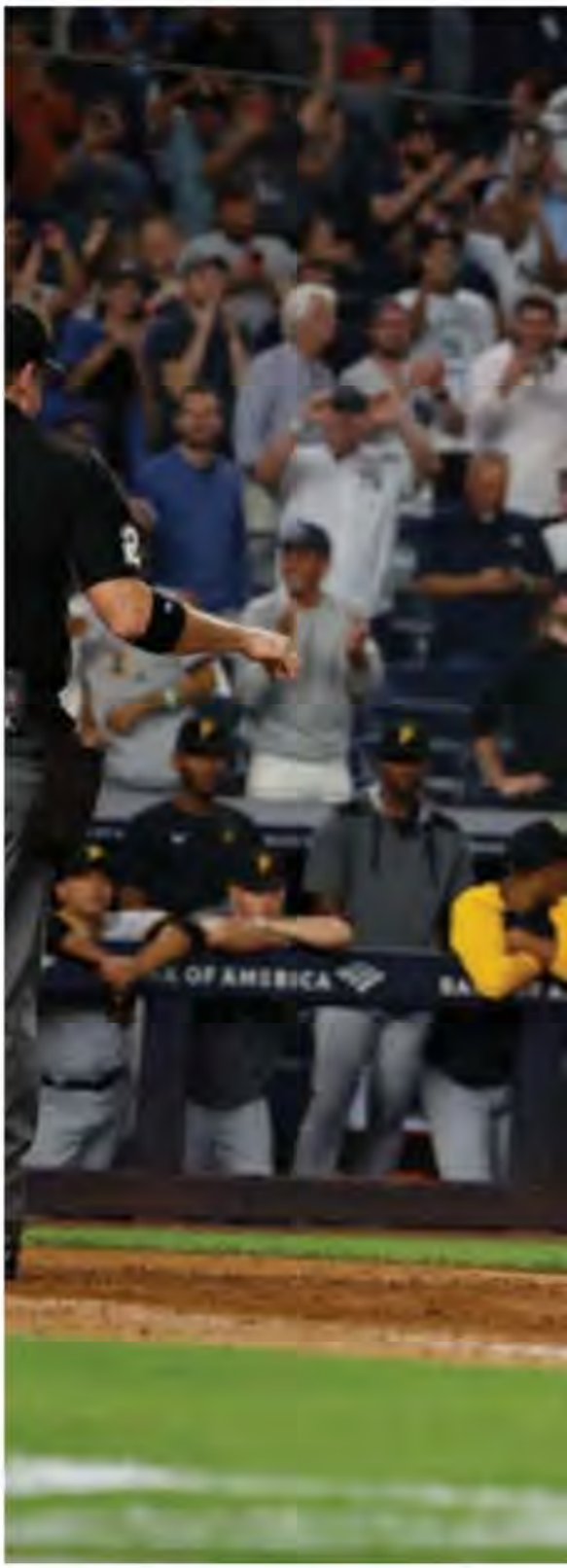
"How did I deal with it? By not getting to 60," he said through a laugh. "You can't run from it; you can't hide from it. You can tell in the stadium what is going on. There is a lot of outside noise, and you have to be able to stay in your zone and stick to your approach. Aaron's done that all year. He's amazing to watch. We get to see all of the behind-the-scenes work he does. He hit 60 tonight, and it's like nothing happened. At least, that's his mindset."

Two games after blasting No. 60, Judge came to the plate against Boston in the bottom of the ninth, again in position to make history and send the home crowd to the exits with a victory — he had already hit three walk-off blasts in 2022. Just like with every one of his at-bats during the late September homestand, Judge heard an eruption from the crowd as he walked to the plate, and then the noise gave way to silence and people taking videos and photos with their phones. He then launched a 2-2 pitch from reliever Matt Barnes to deep center field … where it was caught at the wall.

That would be as close as Judge would come to tying Maris' team and American League record before heading to Toronto.

As Judge and his teammates got ready for a middle-of-the-night flight to Canada after heavy rain brought the Sunday night game against Boston to a premature end, the 30-year-old Californian again put things in perspective.

"How can you be unhappy when we won every game during this homestand?" Judge said from his locker. "That's the most important thing. The other stuff will take care of itself."



62

"WHEN HE WAS RUNNING AROUND THE BASES,

I JUST KEPT SEEING 60 ON THE BOARD.

THAT WAS HARD FOR ME TO GRIP. IT'S ONE OF THOSE ALMOST UNREACHABLE NUMBERS."

—BOONE

With 61 at his fingertips, Judge and the Yankees began a three-game set at Rogers Centre on Sept. 26, and the right fielder quickly found out that the most significant roadblock between him and history would be getting the chance to swing.

Judge led off the first game with a single. A few innings later, he walked for the first of seven times in the series. The most frustrating free pass that Judge got came in the top of the 10th, when Toronto expedited Judge's saunter to first base with an intentional walk that loaded the bases with two outs.

The following night, Judge lined out in his first at-bat, then walked in his last four plate appearances of the game.

"I tried not to change anything in terms of my approach," Judge said. "My job is to be the best hitter I can be, and if that means taking a walk, then I need to take a walk. I never tried to change my plan. I walked a few times, and we won the game."

That win had added significance; it clinched the division for the Yankees a few games prior to the conclusion of a roller-coaster season.

"Every team goes through ups and downs," Judge said from the Champagne-soaked celebration in the visitors' clubhouse at Rogers Centre on Sept. 27. "I think what makes the good teams great is that they look adversity in the face and deal with it head-on. We started off hot; everything was going our way. Then, we had some adversity, but we never wavered. We never faltered or blamed anyone. You have to admire the mental toughness of this team to compete every day the way we have. We knew that if we continued to play hard, things would work out."

The final game in Toronto proved to be one in which Judge's own mental toughness and steadfast approach paid incredible dividends. On Sept. 28, a day on the calendar already steeped in Yankees history — Mantle and fellow Hall of Famer Derek Jeter played their last career games on that date, both at Boston's Fenway Park — Judge made it even more memorable.

When Judge connects, he can do downright mean things to baseballs. His 61st homer, which tied the record set by Maris in 1961, left the bat at 117.4 mph. The ball, somehow still in one piece, landed in the Toronto bullpen 394 feet away, and the Blue Jays graciously returned the historic keepsake to the man who had demolished it.

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Following a game-tying three-run rally for the Blue Jays in the bottom of the sixth inning off Gerrit Cole, Judge came to the plate with Aaron Hicks on first base and no outs in the following frame. In front of 37,008 fans, mostly wearing attire that matched the blue seats in Rogers Centre, Judge launched a blazing line drive to deep left field off Blue Jays reliever Tim Mayza that was clocked at 117.4 mph off his bat. Almost in the blink of an eye, the baseball cleared the field of play, smacking into a wall at the back of the Jays' bullpen, just beyond the outstretched arms of a few fans. Blue Jays bullpen coach Matt Buschmann snagged the ball off a ricochet, and it ultimately was handed over to Judge, who gave the souvenir to his mother much later that evening.

As Judge rounded the bases, the Toronto crowd gave him a standing ovation, and his teammates assembled between the first-base dugout and home plate. He was initially greeted by Hicks, and during a brief delay in the game, every other Yankees player and coach congratulated the team's most recent right fielder to reach 61 home runs in a single season.

Judge tipped his cap to the division-rival crowd, and a few feet above the dugout, an even more touching scene unfolded. Sitting together for the third time in as many nights, Roger Maris Jr. and Judge's mother, Patty, hugged.

Roger Maris Jr. [C] and Patty Judge were there every step of the way as No. 99 pursued home run history. The son of the longtime AL record holder and the mother of the heir apparent embraced after witnessing No. 61 in Toronto on Sept. 28, a Maris symbolically passing the torch to a Judge.

"When I hit it, I thought I had gotten enough," Judge said after the game from the Blue Jays' press conference room in the bowels of Rogers Centre. "But I had not hit a home run in a few days, so you never really know if it's going to get out or not. Once it got over the fence, I felt some relief because we were winning the game. Also, knowing that I had tied Roger Maris, that's the stuff you dream about. It didn't even seem real."

Also surreal was the location of Judge's home run that eclipsed Ruth on the single-season record board. About a mile from Rogers Centre, in September 1914, the Bambino hit his first home run as a professional, clearing the fences at Maple Leaf Park as a member of the minor league Providence Grays. Unlike that stadium at Hanlan's Point, Ruth's legacy has stood the test of time.

When asked to share his thoughts on having done something that even the most storied baseball player hadn't accomplished, Judge was initially speechless.

"It's pretty incredible," Judge said a few seconds later. "But there's a lot of things that Babe Ruth did that I wouldn't be able to do. Getting a chance to sit at 60 for a while with the Babe was nice. Now, sitting at 61 with another Yankees right fielder who hit 61 home runs and who was an MVP and world champion, this is pretty overwhelming."

Not long after the final out of the Yankees' victory was recorded, Judge made his way from the field toward the clubhouse before being intercepted by his mother and Maris' son.

"He congratulated me, and he told me that he had spent a lot of time with my family," Judge said about the conversation with the 63-year-old Maris Jr. "He said a lot of great things. I thanked him and told him that it's an honor to be associated with his father. It was important for him to be here; he came all the way up to Toronto after spending several days in New York. That means a lot to me."

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Judge wasn't done speaking about the man who hit 61 home runs 61 years ago.

"It's an incredible honor to be associated with one of the greatest Yankees, one of baseball's greats," Judge said. "To be enshrined with him forever, words can't describe how much of an honor that is. That's one thing that's so special about the Yankees organization; all of the guys who came before us and paved the way. What Roger Maris did in this game, how he represented the game and the type of person he was — being linked to him is something I will always cherish."

A few days earlier, standing in front of his father's plaque in Yankee Stadium's Monument Park with three of his siblings, Roger Maris Jr. spoke emphatically about the admiration that he and his family have for Judge — not only for his home run–hitting prowess, but also for the dignified road he took to 61.

"When you watch Aaron hit a home run, he drops his bat and runs the bases," he said. "When my dad hit his 61st, he dropped his bat and ran around the bases like it was his first. When Aaron hit his 60th, he acted like it was his first. There are a lot of similarities between them; they come to the park focused, and they are all about winning. Most importantly, they both represented the game the right way."

The road from 61 to 62 proved to be as difficult as any for Judge. Following an off day on Sept. 29, the team returned home for a three-game set against Baltimore. In that series, Judge came to the plate 13 times, collecting just one hit along with five walks and six strikeouts.

As the Yankees headed to Texas for the final four games of the season, the pressure on Judge seemed to be about as big as the Lone Star State itself. There was still great optimism, though, especially considering that the Rangers, already eliminated from postseason contention, were outspoken about the way they planned to pitch to Judge. Unlike the Orioles and Blue Jays, Texas vowed to go after him and to give him every chance to *earn* the hallowed record.

True to their word, Rangers pitchers attacked the strike zone in the first game of the series, a hit by pitch being the only semi-free pass issued on the night. Judge singled once in the game but did not clear the fences.

The following day, in the first game of a day-night doubleheader, Texas challenged Judge five times, but the slugger walked away with only a single.

Then, a few hours later, in the first inning of the nightcap, the moment that the entire sports world had been anxiously waiting for finally became a reality. Leading off the game, Judge deposited a 1-1 slider from right-hander Jesus Tinoco into the left-field

Nothing means more to Judge than family and the New York Yankees, which converged on a special night in September. After he hit No. 61, the then co-record holder had a memorable chat with Maris' son, then got to present the historic home run ball to his mother.

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seats and into the mitt of Cory Youmans, a financial executive from Texas and one of 38,832 fans in attendance. The baseball's exit velocity was clocked at 100.2 mph, and it traveled 391 feet.

The normally stoic Judge couldn't hide his emotions as he dashed around the bases with an ear-to-ear smile on his face. Not far away, sitting in the first row of seats behind the third-base dugout, Judge's family embraced.

"We have not seen a smile from Aaron like that in a week," former Yankees outfielder Paul O'Neill said during the YES Network's broadcast of the game. "That is a genuine sign of relief."

As for the fans in the Rangers' 3-year-old ballpark on Oct. 4, most of them were draped in clothes that represented the home team, yet they relished the chance to witness history, giving Judge a long ovation.

"The thing I will remember most from the last few weeks is the fans," Judge said from the Globe Life Field press conference room after the game while wearing a Yankees sweatshirt, his cap and two thick bands of eye black. "They were on their feet at Yankee Stadium and on the road for every at-bat. That was incredible."

Long before Judge made his way to home plate, the entire Yankees team had spilled out onto the field, many of them literally jumping for joy. When Judge touched the plate, he was first greeted by Stanton with a hug. One by one, every person in the dugout followed suit during a brief delay in the game.

"That was surreal," Judge said. "Just like in Toronto, it was awesome having their support. But I think in Texas, they were a little more excited. At home, I could look into the dugout when I was at the plate, and I could see them all standing on the top step of the dugout, waiting for this to happen. But on the road, they were behind me, so I couldn't see them all. Finally, seeing them run onto the field and getting the chance to hug them all, that's what it's all about for me. Those guys were on this journey with me through all of the ups and downs. Getting to share that moment with them was special."

Without being asked, Judge also shared his feelings about the support he received from the Maris family down the stretch.

"Having Roger Maris Jr. and his family with me, supporting me and being along for the ride, I'm thankful to them for that," he said. "It says a lot about them, because I know that it's a tough situation. When you're talking about your dad's legacy, you want to uphold that. Getting to know them, I can tell you they're wonderful people. Having my name next to Roger Maris and Babe Ruth, that's incredible."

"THE GAMES STARTED TO GO A LITTLE FASTER. THE LAST FEW DAYS, I WOULD LOOK UP, AND IT WOULD ALREADY BE THE SEVENTH INNING. I WOULD QUICKLY REALIZE THAT I ONLY HAD ONE MORE AT-BAT. I JUST TRIED TO TAKE IT ONE DAY AT A TIME AND PLAY MY GAME."
—JUDGE

Undoubtedly, the pressure — and negativity — that Maris dealt with during the summer months of 1961 as he approached the magical record remains a dubious memory. But Judge certainly felt some of the same emotions as he got to within one or two home runs of elevating himself into the pantheon of all-time sluggers.

"The games started to go a little faster," Judge said. "The last few days, I would look up, and it would already be the seventh inning. I would quickly realize that I only had one more at-bat. I just tried to take it one day at a time and play my game. But I'm not going to lie; that was hard to do. For me, I never tried to focus on a number, I just tried to go out there and play my game."

When it was over and Judge had become the first player in the 122-year history of the American League to hit 62 home runs in a single season, the sense of relief practically defined his appearance. From the time he came out of the game in the bottom of the second inning of the historic game through the end of the regular-season finale the next day, Judge seemed to be soaking in the accomplishment. As he conversed with players that congregated near him in the dugout, Judge's laugh seemed to be infectious.

"It's a big relief," he said. "Now everyone can sit in their seats and just watch the ballgame. It's been a fun ride, but I'm happy it's over."

A few months later, on a December morning at Yankee Stadium, another saga came to a close, as the free agent signed a nine-year contract to remain in pinstripes through 2031. Following a press conference and several other media responsibilities, Judge walked out to Monument Park for a brief photo shoot. When he arrived in the area that holds Maris' plaque and Mantle's monument, he paused.

"It's ironic that we're out here in the cold today," he said, touching Maris' plaque. "I always get the chills when I'm out here. When you think about the legacy that these players left, it's forever. It doesn't just represent the Yankees; it's about baseball and all of sports. It just gives you the chills."

Maris' triumph in 1961 earned him a second straight AL MVP Award and, eventually, a plaque in Monument Park. Judge's efforts in 2022 led to his first AL MVP Award, and after signing a nine-year deal that should keep him in pinstripes for life, it's not hard to imagine him receiving a plaque of his own there someday.

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A Yankee to his Core

The quintessential New Yorker, Joe Pepitone was adored by a generation of fans

By Alfred Santasiere III

Joe Pepitone, a three-time All-Star and three-time Gold Glove winner for the Yankees at first base, passed away on March 13 at the age of 82. The Brooklyn native began his big-league career with the Yankees in 1962, and he donned the pinstripes for eight seasons, contributing to three pennant winners and amassing 166 home runs.

"The Yankees are deeply saddened by the passing of former Yankee Joe Pepitone, whose playful and charismatic personality and on-field contributions made him a favorite of generations of Yankees fans even beyond his years with the team in the 1960s," read a statement released by the organization. "As a native New Yorker, he embraced everything about being a Yankee during both his playing career ... and in the decades thereafter. You always knew when Joe walked into a room — his immense pride in being a Yankee was always on display."

Pepitone — who famously brought a blow dryer into the home clubhouse to tend to his stylish hairdo — was beloved by his family and his teammates. In his home borough, hundreds of people poured out onto the streets in celebration when he hit an eighth-inning grand slam in Game 6 of the 1964 World Series that forced a seventh game. Although the Yankees lost that Fall Classic to the St. Louis Cardinals, Pepitone's home run stands as one of the most famous in team history.

"That's one of my favorite memories," Pepitone said in 2015 during a trip to the Prospect Heights neighborhood where he grew up for a *Yankees Magazine* photo shoot and interview. "I can still picture the smile on Mickey Mantle's face as I was rounding the bases. He was so happy for me."

After he parted ways with the Yankees, Pepitone played for the Houston Astros, Chicago Cubs and Atlanta Braves, finishing his 12-year career with 219 home runs and 721 RBI. He would later return to the Yankees organization, doing paid corporate and suite appearances for more than two decades.

Pepitone also found his way into pop culture, including a number of memorable references on the television sitcom *Seinfeld*. One scene in particular saw Jerry's eccentric neighbor, Kramer, recount how his plunking of Pepitone during a fantasy camp game incited a bench-clearing brawl.

Pepitone endured plenty of ups and downs throughout his life and career, but in the end, his positive outlook, kind personality and Yankees pride were remembered most of all.

"I'm glad I wore the pinstripes for eight seasons," he said that 2015 day in Brooklyn. "I love the guys I got to play alongside. Those memories have stayed with me forever. Sometimes I wish things could have been different, but I'm OK with how things turned out. This is the happiest I've ever been. It's hard not to be happy when you're back in the old neighborhood, even if it's only for a few hours."

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ALL REVVED UP

CARLOS RODÓN
CAN'T WAIT TO SHOW NEW YORK WHAT HE'S CAPABLE OF

BY ALFRED SANTASIERE III

CARLOS RODÓN

When Indianapolis, Indiana, is discussed in the context of sports, speed is usually part of the conversation. It is there, in the Midwestern city located almost 200 miles south of Chicago, that the nation's most storied motorsports event has taken place for more than a century.

Not far from the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, where the sights and sounds of racecars leave hundreds of thousands of spectators in awe every May, Carlos Rodón put in long hours in an effort to reclaim a different version of speed.

A few years before the now two-time All-Star signed a six-year deal worth $162 million with the Yankees, he was struggling to pitch effectively at the big-league level. In racing vernacular, he was in need of a pitstop.

The Chicago White Sox had selected Rodón with the third overall pick in the 2014 draft out of North Carolina State, and the southpaw ascended through the organization rapidly, making his debut with the big club in 2015. By that season's end, Rodón had won nine games and posted a 3.75 ERA with 139 strikeouts. He equaled that win total in his second season, giving the White Sox 165 innings of work and striking out 168 batters.

Going into his third season at the highest level, excitement filled the air on the Windy City's South Side. Rodón was just 24 years old, and it seemed that he would be able to meet the lofty expectations that came with his draft slot.

But that's when Rodón's fortunes began to go the other way. A long list of injuries that included a sprained left wrist, left biceps bursitis and left shoulder inflammation, coupled with inconsistency, contributed to a steep decline. Rodón made just 12 starts in 2017, winning two games, and although he rebounded in 2018, that season's line — 6-8 with a 4.18 ERA in 20 starts — still didn't align with where the organization had hoped he would be at that point in his career.

"Everything went so smoothly for me in amateur baseball," Rodón said from a Yankee Stadium suite last December, as he decompressed with his family after his introductory press conference. "I worked hard, and everything really fell into my lap. It was just easy. Then, playing professional baseball was a completely different game, both on the field and in dealing with the challenges that came from injuries."

After just his seventh start of the 2019 season, things got even worse for Rodón; he began to experience elbow pain, which led to Tommy John surgery that May. Through the increased challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic created for a player trying to rehab and return, Rodón worked his way back to the mound during the abbreviated 2020 season, only to find that he still had a long way to go.

After posting an 8.22 ERA in four appearances (two starts and two in relief), Rodón was handed the ball in Game 3 of his team's AL Wild Card Series against Oakland. He gave up two runs without recording an out, and in a deciding game, with the season on the line, Chicago manager Rick Renteria called for help from the bullpen.

Chicago's season came to an end later that night, and not long after that, the White Sox chose to non-tender Rodón, rather than paying him what he was projected to be awarded in arbitration. Getting released proved to be a seminal moment for the once–highly touted pitcher.

"Dealing with the expectations just became harder as things got away from me on the mound," he said. "Letting down the fans and my family was hard to deal with, especially when the White Sox non-tendered me. I still had support from the people who loved me, but I felt as if the expectations for me coming in as a third overall pick were to turn the White Sox organization around. There was a lot of pressure, and I wanted to live up to that. When you get to a point in which the team decides to essentially let you walk out the door, you realize that you're probably not the guy who is going to bring success to the organization or to the city you've been part of. That was tough."

It was then that Rodón knew he needed to make wholesale changes, and when he returned to his home in Indiana, he found

All smiles (and bare chinned) upon reporting to Yankees camp, Rodón set out this spring to begin a new phase of his career. Following consecutive All-Star campaigns with the White Sox and Giants in '21 and '22, respectively, the free-agent left-hander was one of the top pitchers on the market this past offseason.

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his way to the place where he believed that a team of baseball mechanics could fix him.

Having already worked with Dr. Jamey Gordon at Pro X Athlete before the 2020 season, Rodón returned to the Indianapolis facility where amateur and professional ballplayers hone their craft. Rodón knew that he needed more than a tune-up. He had to find another gear, a different approach, before leaving this important pitstop.

"I still had the ability to be a great major league pitcher," Rodón said. "But I also knew that what I was doing on the mound wasn't going to lead to sustainable success."

That mindset was the impetus behind a blunt exchange between Rodón and Jay Lehr, the lead pitching instructor at the facility.

"It was really simple," Rodón said. "I had seen the work he had done with other pitchers there, and I just told him to fix me. Literally, I just walked up to him and said, 'Fix me. I want to be fixed. Tell me what I need to do.'"

What Rodón needed to do was make adjustments from the ground up. After watching video of several of his appearances from previous seasons, Lehr went to work on getting Rodón to make better use of his legs.

"That's where it all started," Rodón said. "My back leg was coming off the mound too early, and it was rotating too soon.

"It all came down to how I interacted with the ground when I was throwing the baseball," he continued. "I wasn't grounded very well throughout my delivery off the mound during the years I was hurt and not pitching effectively. I was a toe striker and quad dominant. As a result, my command was not great, and my velocity and durability suffered."

As the offseason moved along, one month and then another, Rodón worked diligently to improve his mechanics.

"We used a core velocity build-up tool," he said. "From my back foot, I began to move down the mound properly. I would now be grounded while I was moving down the mound and throwing the baseball. That gave me more durability, and a delivery that I could repeat. Right away, it seemed more sustainable. I felt like it would let me throw harder for longer."

Amid the mechanical rebuild, Rodón actually re-signed with the White Sox, inking a one-year contract. He headed into the 2021 regular season with a renewed sense of confidence, and with a feeling of positivity for the first time in a while.

"I knew that I had a foundation in place," he said. "Things felt so much better than they had in the past. When I was rehabbing from

As if it's not hard enough for opposing teams to face a Yankees lineup that includes such studs as Aaron Judge and Giancarlo Stanton, to name just two, Rodón joins Cortes and Cole in what should be a fearsome Yankees rotation. "His tenacity inspires the rest of the guys in the rotation, including me," Cole said.

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Tommy John the previous year, I felt like I was just trying to figure out who I was as a pitcher, and then it seemed like we had about two seconds to get ready for the season."

From the time he rejoined the organization in early February, Rodón began working with Ethan Katz, who had recently been named Chicago's pitching coach. In the first conversation that Rodón had with Katz on FaceTime, and through the duration of spring training, the pitching coach's message mirrored what he had heard from Lehr. Katz preached the importance of Rodón keeping his back foot planted until he released the baseball, and the big lefty heeded the advice.

"We talked about how all of your energy comes through the ground," Rodón said. "The kinetic chain starts with your back foot and travels through your hips and to your shoulder. That chain is not very strong when you're driving to home plate on your back toe rather than on your whole foot."

Rodón found instant success from the mechanical adjustments he had worked so hard to make. In his second start of the 2021 season, he tossed a no-hitter against the Cleveland Guardians. In that April 14 gem, Rodón struck out seven and came within one hit batter of perfection.

The no-hitter highlighted Rodón's comeback season, but the statistics that were most important were the radar gun readings. Rodón's fastball in 2021 averaged 95.4 mph, up from 91.4 in 2019. The increase allowed him to rely more on his four-seamer, the pitch that he said paved the way to his dominance on the collegiate level with the Wolfpack.

With all of his pitches working — including an 86 mph slider that opposing hitters managed to bat just .107 against in 2021 — Rodón cruised through the first half of the season, earning the first All-Star selection of his career.

Rodón finished the regular season with a 13-5 record and a 2.37 ERA in 132⅔ innings. His career-best 185:36 strikeout-to-walk ratio further proved that the changes he had made not only helped him to throw the baseball harder, but also more accurately.

"I was able to get my command back to where it had been in the early part of my professional career," said Rodón, who topped out at 100.7 mph in 2021. "The other thing that we worked hard on was doing a better job of disguising pitches. I feel like I was able to make my slider and fastball look the same coming out of my hand."

Having established himself as one of the most productive starters in the game, Rodón became a wanted man after the 2021 season. It didn't take long for the San Francisco Giants to sign the Miami native to a two-year contract worth a reported $44 million. That deal included a player opt-out after the first season.

"I learned a lot more through adversity, especially considering that I never had to deal with failure before that," Rodón said. "I knew that I was better for it when I got to San Francisco."

Rodón approached the 2022 season with the goal of building off his comeback year of 2021. If there was one shortcoming that Rodón saw in his 2021 output, it was his inability to maintain his endurance down the stretch. Based on the lack of work he had between 2019 and 2020, Chicago was cautious with him in August and September of 2021, limiting him to just five innings in each of his last eight starts. Rodón also missed a few weeks in the second half with shoulder fatigue.

"I started slowing down in August of 2021," Rodón said. "I got tired. I just didn't have the buildup I probably needed at that

After being drafted third overall by the White Sox in 2014, Rodón slogged through several tough seasons. Non-tendered after the COVID-shortened 2020 season, the southpaw rebuilt his entire approach, from mechanics to mentality. "Fix me," he told a pitching instructor. "I want to be fixed. Tell me what I need to do."

"I want to thank the
Good Lord for making
me a Yankee"
– Joe DiMaggio
OCTOBER 1949

time. When you think about it, most frontline starters had thrown between 160 and 180 innings in the previous season. Jumping [to 132⅔] innings was a massive increase for me.

"I heard people saying that I was hurt again or that I wasn't durable in 2021," Rodón continued. "But I knew that I could do it for a whole season in '22; I just needed some extra time. So, going into last season, I was OK with people doubting me, but I was going to show everyone that I was going to pitch a whole season. I wanted to be stronger at the end than I was at the beginning. I wanted to quiet the critics."

After a first half that earned him a second All-Star nod in as many years, Rodón proved that he could finish what he started. From the beginning of August through the end of the regular season, Rodón put together a 5-2 record, and of his 11 double-digit strikeout performances during the season, seven came after the All-Star break.

Overall, Rodón had a career year in 2022. He finished the season 14-8 with a 2.88 ERA in 31 starts. His 237 strikeouts ranked third in the majors, and his 11.98 K's per nine innings was best among all pitchers in the sport.

When Rodón opted out of the second year of his deal with the Giants, he immediately became one of the most sought-after starting pitchers on the free-agent market.

For Yankees general manager Brian Cashman, the thought of adding the 30-year-old southpaw to a rotation that already included Gerrit Cole, the 2022 major league strikeout king; All-Star lefthander Nestor Cortes; and Luis Severino, a two-time All-Star who won seven games in his first complete season following Tommy John surgery, made all the sense in the world.

Both All-Stars in 2022, Jose Trevino [L] and Rodón should spend plenty of time working together this year. The pitcher will be on his third team in three years, but he can't wait to experience the excitement, the rewards and the pressure that come with trying to impress Yankees fans.

A day after the Yankees announced that they had re-signed Aaron Judge and made him the 16th captain in franchise history, Cashman stepped back up to the podium in Yankee Stadium's press conference room and spoke about acquiring Rodón.

"The hope is that he has found his area of comfort," Cashman said. "I can't deny that he's had a history of injuries prior to the last two seasons, but as a professional athlete, he's on a journey, trying to navigate the 162-game season. So, I certainly believe that he found his sweet spot in the last few seasons."

In addition to the numbers Rodón put up since 2021 — both on his Baseball Reference page and on radar guns — his passion brought Cashman's interest to another level.

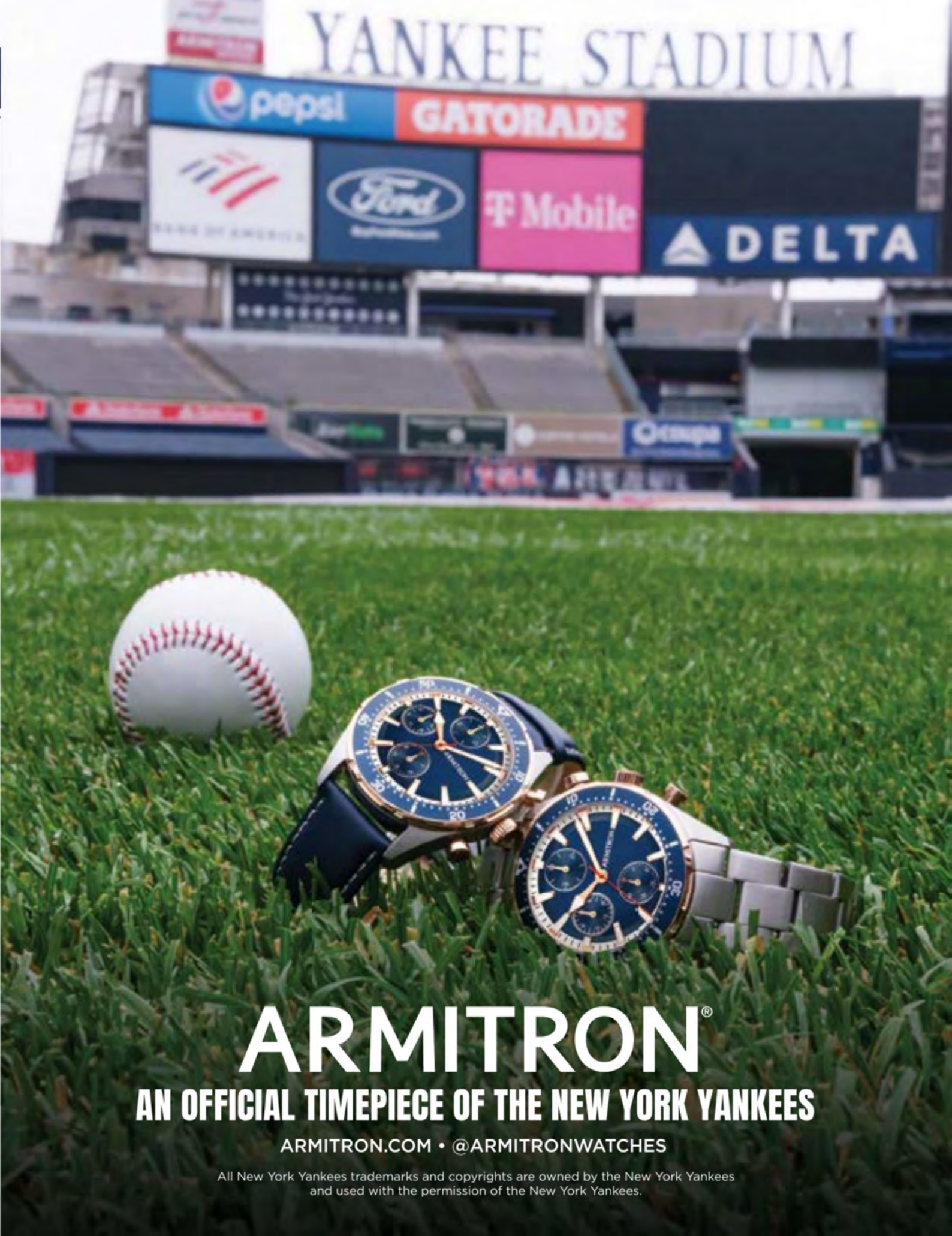
"From all of the information that we gathered from his teammates in Chicago and San Francisco, we found out that he has a competitive side that is probably second to none," Cashman said. "He's going to challenge lineups, come right at them with an attitude of triteness. He's going to display that because he cares so much. I like that fire; it shows your teammates and the fan base just how invested you are."

Before Rodón, his wife Ashley, their two young children and his parents left the suite and the Stadium on that cold December afternoon, the pitcher reflected on "the journey" that his new GM had referenced.

"There's a lot of satisfaction in resurrecting your career," he said. "It was definitely derailed for about four years with all of the injuries. Getting non-tendered and then making my way back to the White Sox, proving that I could still pitch at a high level and eventually signing a long-time contract with the Yankees, makes me grateful. Going through all of that adversity made me the pitcher that is sitting here today at Yankee Stadium."

Rodón also shed light on his renewed outlook now that he's wearing the pinstripes.

"The biggest thing me for me was that I have never been part of an organization that put out a winning team perennially or that was committed to doing so," Rodón said.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"Coming to the Bronx, I knew all of the expectations, all of the pressures, but being a New York Yankee means having a chance to win. I'll take on all of the pressure knowing that I have a chance to win a championship every year."

A few months after his whirlwind trip to the Big Apple, Rodón and his teammates arrived in Tampa for spring training. For a group that has been in the postseason six straight years, making it to the ALCS three times but not getting over the hump in any of those series, Rodón's presence brought high hopes to George M. Steinbrenner Field.

"He's the best lefty in the game," Severino said from his locker. "He's a power lefty, and that's something we haven't had. I want to watch him compete in the playoffs. He has so much energy. To see that in October, especially in New York, that would be special. There's not a team in baseball that would want to face him in a playoff game."

Pulling off the track and into a pitstop is an accepted part of motorsports, but in baseball, having to shut it down, even for a brief time, brings doubters to the forefront. During Rodón's first spring training start with the Yankees, he was dealt a setback, a strain in his left forearm.

Luckily for Rodón and the Yankees, the southpaw's situation was not considered to be serious. Rodón had pitched through the same ailment with the Giants last May, but because it was just the spring, with months to go before the biggest nights on the calendar, the Yankees chose a more conservative route to getting their star pitcher back to form: a few weeks of rest.

"It didn't stop him last May," Cashman said on the day that Rodón was evaluated. "But it's March, and we don't want to play this into something different."

When speaking about Rodón in spring training, Cole was mindful of his teammate's setback, but it hardly dimmed his excitement about having the big lefty in the rotation with him.

"He's a really great competitor," Cole said. "He's got nasty stuff. You have to be a bulldog to get through the stuff he's had to deal with. That trait shows up in the way he goes about his work, and it's the way he's turned his career around. He got to the top of the leaderboard and the peak of great pitching. You're never going to question whether he wants the ball or if he wants to keep going in the face of any type of adversity. His tenacity inspires the rest of the guys in the rotation, including me."

Even though an injury slowed down his first spring training in pinstripes, neither Rodón nor his teammates were worried about the short-term effects. It's about what he can do during the season, and more importantly, in October. "I can't wait to watch him compete in the playoffs," says fellow starter Luis Severino. "He's the best lefty in the game."

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GOLDEN ERA

Beginning 50 years ago, George Steinbrenner restored the Yankees to greatness and changed the course of the entire sports world

By Alfred Santasiere III

It all began on Delaware Street in Buffalo, New York.

Long before George Steinbrenner purchased the Yankees 50 years ago, before he made the transition from a shipbuilding executive to the most recognizable team owner in sports, to a visionary who charted the path to seven World Series championships and who literally revolutionized the landscape of the sports business, he was simply trying to get his foot in the door.

Beginning in the late 1950s, Steinbrenner, whose family and business were based in northern Ohio, found himself spending significant time in Buffalo. Steinbrenner's role in the American Shipbuilding Company — which he merged with his family's Kinsman Marine Transit — brought him across Lake Erie to western New York on a weekly basis.

Steinbrenner could at times be found enjoying live music at Royal Arms, a well-known establishment in Buffalo's downtown. It was there that Steinbrenner also forged a lifelong friendship with Max Margulis, who ran the place.

While his dedication to the shipbuilding business was never in question, Steinbrenner had other aspirations, and before he pursued the one goal that he was most passionate about, he partnered with Margulis in the purchase of a restaurant in Buffalo.

Along with Jimmy Naples, another Buffalo restaurateur, Steinbrenner and Margulis bought The Chateau, renamed it the Roundtable, and continued its legacy as the place to be in Buffalo.

Yet still, the sports world beckoned. Already a part owner of the Cleveland Pipers of the American Basketball League, Steinbrenner had unsuccessfully tried to purchase the Cleveland Indians. Never one to give up, Steinbrenner remained dogged in his pursuit of a franchise.

"He was a visionary," said Yankees COO Lonn Trost, who served as outside council for the team with the law firm of Shea and Gould and then Herrick, Feinstein for two decades before joining the front office in 1997. "But he also listened, could adapt and understand the extent of what someone might have mentioned to him and was able to run with it."

When Steinbrenner [R, with Yankees president Michael Burke] led the purchase of the team from CBS in 1973, it marked a turning point in franchise history. After a dismal decade, the Bronx Bombers would soon thrive under their new leadership. "Right from the beginning, he wanted to win for the city, for the fans," says Yankees COO Lonn Trost.

Margulis, who would later work for the Yankees prior to his death in 2009, shared with Yankees senior vice president Tony Bruno the story of how the seeds of Steinbrenner's dream were planted.

"Mr. Steinbrenner found out that the New England Patriots were going to be sold in the early 1970s," Bruno recalled. "He knew that the Patriots' owner was going to be attending a sportswriters' dinner in New York City, and he asked Max how he could get a ticket to the banquet, which was scheduled to take place the following week. Max was so popular, particularly with sports people, that he was able to connect Mr. Steinbrenner with the head of the writers' association.

"Mr. Steinbrenner went to the dinner with the intent of trying to get an inroad into buying the New England Patriots," Bruno continued. "When he sat down at the table, the executive that he was trying to engage with from the Patriots just didn't want to have it. At one point that night, Mr. Steinbrenner turned to the person next to him and said, 'I came all this way, and I'm just trying to get a word in edgewise about buying his football team, and he won't pay me any attention.' That guy — who turned out to be Yankees president Michael Burke — said, 'I don't know why you want to buy a football team. Why don't you buy a baseball team? We're selling the New York Yankees.'"

Years later, during a long drive from Ocala, Florida, where the Boss was purchasing a few racehorses, to the team's corporate offices and spring training facility in Tampa, Steinbrenner expounded upon those early days.

Steinbrenner was able to forge a meeting with CBS, the broadcasting company that owned the once-great team. Prior to 1965 — the first season under CBS' stewardship — the Yankees had won the American League pennant 22 times in 29 seasons. The team then finished at least 15 games out of

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first place in each of the next seven seasons. From a financial perspective, things were even worse: Fewer than 1 million fans attended Yankee Stadium in 1972, the lowest total since 1945. On top of all that, The House That Ruth Built was in need of major repairs. As a result, the team played its home games at Shea Stadium during the 1974 and 1975 seasons.

Despite the fact that other suitors were willing to put up more money, Steinbrenner still found a way to make a case for himself and the group of investors he was in the process of assembling. As he explained to Bruno, that was not an easy task.

"The way Mr. Steinbrenner told the story was that [legendary CBS chairman] William S. Paley never turned toward him while he was talking," Bruno said. "Paley just looked out the window the whole time with his back to the Boss. CBS wasn't confident that Mr. Steinbrenner had the money to purchase the Yankees, and they really pushed him on that. Somehow, without ever looking Paley in the eye, Mr. Steinbrenner convinced him that he did have the money."

On Jan. 3, 1973, the Yankees were sold to a group led by Steinbrenner for $8.8 million, a deal that included two parking garages worth $1.2 million that were later returned to CBS' portfolio. The dollar amount was especially remarkable considering that CBS had purchased 80 percent of the team for $11.2 million in November 1964, making the Yankees only the second team since World War II to be sold at a loss.

Steinbrenner, who personally put up $168,000, vowed to do what many thought was impossible: turn the perennial fourth-place Yankees into world champions within a few short years.

"George had pride in the team and in being an owner," said Trost. "Right from the beginning, he wanted to win for the city, for the fans. He was conscious of what the Yankees meant to New York City; that was the utmost thing on his mind."

With the Yankees set to move into Shea Stadium, Steinbrenner held his first staff meeting in the team's makeshift offices at the New York City Parks Administration building, located in the shadows of their temporary home. The Yankees' current director of office administration, Debbie Nicolosi, was part of the front-office staff that first met Steinbrenner that spring.

"There were about 30 people who worked in the entire organization," Nicolosi said. "He walked into a conference room and introduced himself. He sat on a desk and went around the room and asked everyone their names and what they did in the organization. He explained who he was, and then he said that he valued everyone as employees, but he told us that his money was going to the players on the field. We all kind of looked at each other and laughed."

Steinbrenner would encounter a major setback prior to making good on his promise to return the Yankees to what they once were. In November 1974, Commissioner Bowie Kuhn suspended the Boss from running the team for two years — a term later reduced to 15 months — after he pleaded guilty to conspiring to make illegal corporate contributions to President Richard Nixon's re-election campaign, along with related misdemeanors. Steinbrenner would later be pardoned by President Ronald Reagan in 1989.

Before his suspension had begun, Steinbrenner had already started the process of rebuilding the team with trades for All-Stars and future postseason heroes Lou Piniella and Chris Chambliss. Soon after that, the Yankees completed deals for shortstop Bucky Dent and second baseman Willie Randolph.

The advent of free agency in baseball allowed Steinbrenner to prove that his commitment to restoring the franchise was genuine. The Yankees added Cy Young Award winner Catfish Hunter prior to the 1975 season, traded for a few more impactful players over the next year and brought in former second baseman Billy Martin to manage the team.

The Yankees' 1976 season began at a refurbished Yankee Stadium. Before that campaign was all said and done, more than

George Steinbrenner [second from R] believed in surrounding himself with sharp baseball minds, and in 1977, that philosophy yielded the Yankees' first world championship in 15 years. Hal Steinbrenner [R], has followed in his father's footsteps, carrying childhood memories of celebrating in the clubhouse alongside general manager Gabe Paul [L] and manager Billy Martin as he continues to build upon the team's winning legacy.

2 million fans had come through the turnstiles and the team had won the American League Championship Series, defeating the Kansas City Royals on a thrilling walk-off home run by Chambliss. Although the Cincinnati Reds swept the Yankees in the '76 World Series, the Bronx Bombers were on the precipice of putting it all together.

"When you think about how bad they were for so long, it was amazing to get where we were that quickly," Nicolosi said.

In his biggest splash of the decade, Steinbrenner signed free agent Reggie Jackson in November 1976, and the All-Star slugger rewarded him for making a $2.96 million blockbuster commitment. Jackson hit 32 home runs in his first regular season with the team and three more in Game 6 of the World Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers. That night represented much more in the Bronx: The Yankees had clinched their first championship in more than a decade, and Steinbrenner had officially kept his promise.

Hal Steinbrenner, the organization's managing general partner since November 2008 and the youngest of George and Joan Steinbrenner's four children, was 7 years old when the team first won it all under his father's leadership. While reflecting on what his father accomplished, the younger Steinbrenner pointed to the characteristic that set the Boss apart from his competitors.

"Nobody worked harder than my dad," Steinbrenner said. "The team was not doing well when he took over, but he was determined to turn it around. He added a number of significant pieces and was going to do everything he could to make the Yankees the best team in baseball. Within a few short years, it happened. He wasn't afraid to use the resources he had to win a championship. As a leader — he was previously a football coach at Northwestern University — he knew who could lead. Hiring Billy Martin — who had pluses and minuses like all of us, but who could get players going — was a brilliant decision. My dad hired the right people in the front office and in the clubhouse, along with bringing in so much talent."

When Steinbrenner took the reins in 1973, he told the 30 or so people working in the Yankees' front office that he was going to put every resource he could into the on-field product. Fewer than five years later, he enjoyed his first ticker-tape parade up the Canyon of Heroes. "It was amazing to get where we were that quickly," says Yankees director of office administration Debbie Nicolosi.

Among the special memories that Hal Steinbrenner holds close to his heart are the moments he spent with his father after all of that hard work had come to fruition.

"I was there in the clubhouse after the final out in 1977," he said. "There's a great photo of me, my dad and Billy. There wasn't a lot of emotion with my dad, but he's smiling in that picture. He did a lot of things, but he didn't often smile as a result of watching a baseball game. That picture says it all; it looks like a smile of relief, pride and excitement — all good things."

George Steinbrenner didn't rest on his laurels following his first championship, bringing in free-agent closer Goose Gossage even though the team already had the 1977 AL Cy Young Award winner, Sparky Lyle, in its bullpen.

The Yankees struggled for the first half of the 1978 season, and Steinbrenner fired Martin for the first of five times. Bob Lemon was promoted to the managerial position, and with Yogi Berra also on the coaching staff, the team came back from a 14-game deficit in July to tie the Boston Red Sox at the conclusion of the regular season. In a tiebreaker game at Fenway Park to determine the AL East champion, Dent hit a historic seventh-inning home run, clearing the 37-foot Green Monster and giving the Yankees a lead they would not relinquish that sunny afternoon.

Dent, the eventual World Series MVP, powered the Yankees past the Dodgers in the 1978 Fall Classic, bringing back-to-back championships to the Bronx.

After enduring heartbreak in 1979, when the team's catcher and inspirational leader, captain Thurman Munson, died in a plane crash, the Yankees returned to the World Series in 1981, this time falling to the Dodgers in six games.

The rest of the decade could best be described as a roller coaster for Steinbrenner and the Yankees. The Boss' commitment to winning remained firmly intact, evidenced by the acquisitions of superstars Dave Winfield in December 1980 and Rickey Henderson in December 1984. Of even greater significance, Don Mattingly, who was taken in the 19th round of the 1979 draft, emerged as one of baseball's best all-around players, winning the AL batting title in 1984 and league MVP honors in '85.

But championships didn't follow the stars to the Bronx in the '80s. With each passing season, Steinbrenner's patience grew thinner. He hired and fired managers — most notably Martin and Berra — and general managers between 1982 and 1990, and the narrative generally cast him as being impulsive and overly demanding. But to those who worked closely with him, the reality was much more positive than the perception.

"He was always good to me," Nicolosi said. "He was a strong presence, but he was a very compassionate man. If you were loyal to him, he was loyal to you. As rough as he was when he took over the club, he was a gentle giant. He was rough around the edges, but his bark was sometimes bigger than his bite."

According to senior vice president of marketing Debbie Tymon, who began her tenure with the Yankees in 1985, front-office members who worked closely with the Boss were expected to honor and uphold the team's rich tradition.

"In every meeting, working on every project, discussing every event and anything that was going to happen in Yankee Stadium, there was a clear understanding that you had to know the history of the franchise leading up to that moment," Tymon said. "The focus on attention to detail, understanding every aspect of the history of what you were working on, the player history, the Stadium history, that was all important to him."

Despite not getting back to the World Series during the '80s, Steinbrenner was still able to grow the Yankees' brand, both in the United States and around the world.

"In terms of the Yankees as a global brand, he had a vision for that growth process before anyone else did," Tymon said. "He always wanted to have at least five cap days before the All-Star break. He wanted as many caps given out to the fans as possible because he considered the Yankee cap to be a moving billboard. To him, it was more valuable to see Yankees caps, not just in the ballpark, not just in New York City, but around the country and the world."

Steinbrenner's vision for his beloved brand wasn't limited to in-stadium promotions. In 1988, he spearheaded a 12-year TV deal with MSG network for $500 million, which, at the time, was unheard of. During the same time frame, long before any other team owner had created a regional sports network with dedicated coverage of their team, Steinbrenner was contemplating that concept.

"I remember being with him in a meeting at the Carlyle Hotel, where he was trying to convince some luminaries, including Bill Shea and Jack Kent Cooke, of the importance of a regional sports network," Trost said. "It wasn't the right time yet; the rules of cable and the lack of inventory from a prospective partner made it impossible. But George was the impetus to getting the ball rolling."

Regardless of whether the team was winning or struggling on the field, Steinbrenner never fell short in his efforts to help others. Based on what was instilled in him at a young age, much of what he did was never known about.

In helping the Yankees reclaim their perch atop the sports landscape, Steinbrenner rose to national prominence. An outsized personality always ready with a quip for the New York tabloids, he commanded a spotlight that most baseball executives could never dream of. From being portrayed as a recurring character on Seinfeld *to hosting* Saturday Night Live, *the Boss became part of the American zeitgeist.*

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"My father was, without a doubt, one of the most generous people I have ever met," said general partner Jennifer Steinbrenner Swindal, who serves as the president of the New York Yankees foundations in New York and Tampa. "That was not always known by everyone. The part that I loved the most was his saying, 'If more than two people know that you have given, then you have done it for the wrong reason.' That stuck with me forever. There were so many wonderful gestures that he did for people, which we didn't even know about until after his death. I saw the things that were publicized, but it was so much more than that, things like paying for people's education and houses. It went on and on, and by watching it growing up, he set the example of giving back."

"That was his dad's philosophy," Hal Steinbrenner said. "If more than two people know about it, it's not charity. That's the way my dad lived his life. If you're out there advertising everything you do for charity, you're not doing it for the right reason."

Yankees senior vice president of corporate/community relations Brian Smith began working for the Yankees in 1993. During the first half of his tenure, Smith worked closely with the Boss and quickly learned just how much the local communities meant to Steinbrenner.

"He was someone who had a sincere commitment, not only to generate and provide the resources to establish a great product on the field but also to be a productive neighbor in the community that his organization existed in," Smith said. "He showed that on an ongoing basis. It wasn't about the story; it was about making a difference and moving the needle."

What still stands out to Smith are discussions he had with the Boss about putting things into motion.

"I can't tell you how many conversations, during work hours, late at night or early in the morning, that we had about our neighbors in the surrounding community," Smith said. "From disaster relief to fires in the Bronx, Mr. Steinbrenner was committed to being there when individuals were in need. That meant being there for those families, supporting them, providing them with the resources they needed and helping them navigate through trying times. It meant covering funeral expenses and helping people rebuild their lives."

Case in point: When a local high school football team lost all of its equipment, the Boss quietly went out of his way to save the season.

"I will always remember when St. Michael's, a school right here in the Bronx, had a fire on their bus, and everything was lost," Smith said. "Mr. Steinbrenner wanted to help them, and we came up with a plan, not only to replace their equipment but also to make sure that the transportation they had to and from games was at the same level as our ballplayers."

The darkest time in the Boss' era came just before the dawn of one of the greatest periods in team history. Following a fifth-place finish in 1989, Steinbrenner was again barred from running the team, this time for his actions involving Winfield that undermined the integrity of his position. The penalty, which was handed down by then-commissioner Fay Vincent, only allowed Steinbrenner to remain as a limited partner until he returned to the front office on March 1, 1993.

Not long after Steinbrenner's suspension began, Gene Michael, a former player, coach and manager, was named the team's

The hiring of Torre [L] and the emergence of superstar players such as Jeter [C] led to the most fruitful era of Steinbrenner's ownership. With four world championships in a five-year span from 1996 to 2000, the Yankees established baseball's most recent dynasty, a run that paved the way for unprecedented success on the business side of the organization.

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general manager. Michael brought a revamped culture to the organization, along with cornerstone players such as Bernie Williams, Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera, Andy Pettitte, Jorge Posada, Paul O'Neill and Jimmy Key. Michael also tabbed Buck Showalter, then the team's third base coach, to lead the big club.

Things finally began to improve in the Bronx, and by the time Steinbrenner returned, it seemed as if the team had a realistic chance to get back to the World Series. Although Jeter, Rivera, Pettitte and Posada had yet to reach the majors, Steinbrenner quickly took notice of what he had in the pipeline.

"I first met Mr. Steinbrenner when I was 18," Jeter said. "He used to show up and watch Rookie ball games. I remember him coming out in his turtleneck when it was about 100 degrees down there in Tampa. He was aware that I was the first-round pick, so he came over to introduce himself. I'm not sure that he said, 'Hello, I'm Mr. Steinbrenner,' but he introduced himself in his own way."

Leaning on the expertise of top executives such as Trost [top, second from R] and Levine [above, fourth from R] to carry out his vision, Steinbrenner oversaw the construction of a new Yankee Stadium while preparing to pass the torch to his children. In 2009, the Yankees moved into their new home, where many of the old traditions – including hosting college football games – live on.

Showalter led the Yankees to a second-place finish in 1993. A year later, the Bronx Bombers were in first place with a 70-43 record when a labor strike prematurely ended the 1994 season that August, thus negating any chance the Yankees had of returning to the World Series.

In Mattingly's final season of 1995, the team captured the first ever AL Wild Card and took a 2-games-to-none lead over Seattle in the best-of-five AL Division Series. Much to the dismay of Steinbrenner, the Mariners stormed back, winning the final three games in the Kingdome.

Brian Cashman, currently in his 26th season as the team's general manager — which marks the longest tenure in the game today, and in team history for his position — was then the Yankees' assistant GM. It is Cashman's belief that the public reaction to personnel changes that Steinbrenner made ultimately bolstered the stability and success that the organization had in subsequent years.

"When George came back in 1993, we were building something with Gene Michael and Buck Showalter," Cashman said. "He was thirsty and hungry when he came back, but the strike took us down in 1994, especially considering that we had the best record in the American League. Getting swept in Seattle after taking a two-game lead in 1995 really impacted George. He was furious, embarrassed and angry, all part of his character. The general manager was out; the manager was not retained.

"The backlash that he got from that experience was so much stronger than anything he had dealt with in the past, and I think that made a major impact on him."

With Joe Torre in the dugout and Bob Watson now the general manager, the Yankees made it back to the World Series in 1996 for the first time in 15 years. With his team down 2-games-to-none against the Braves, Torre famously told Steinbrenner that the Yankees would win three straight in Atlanta and clinch the title in the Bronx.

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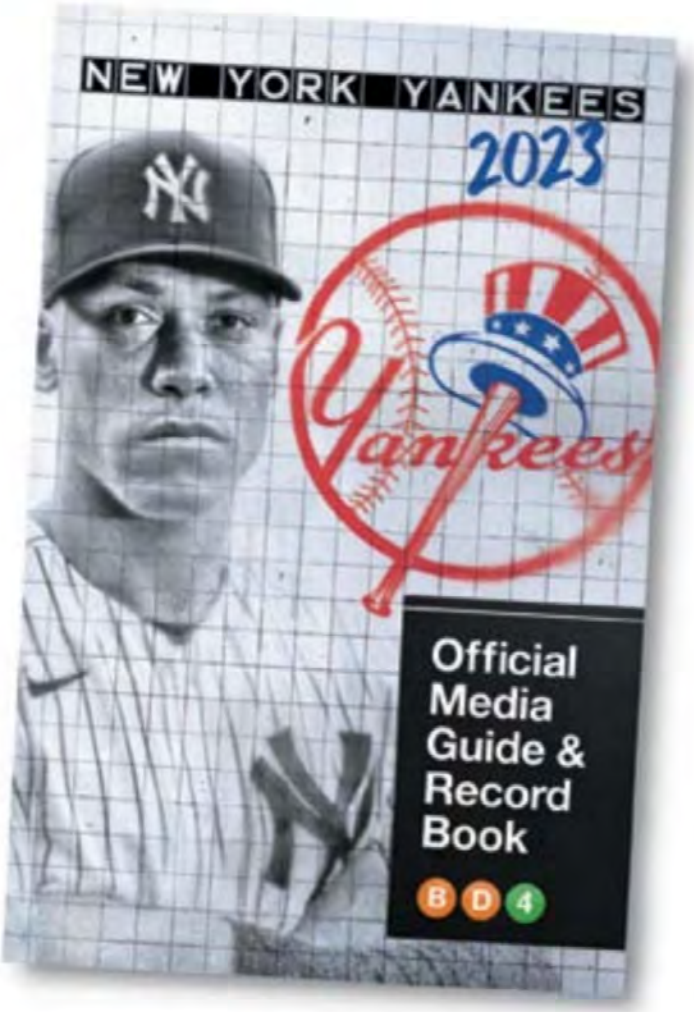

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125-50 overall record including a World Series sweep of San Diego. That would be the first of three consecutive championships — part of a run of four in five years — for a team built on homegrown talent.

"Once we became so good at delivering, George had more patience and trust in the operation," said Cashman, who took over for Watson prior to the 1998 season.

"As we came up through the minors, Mr. Steinbrenner spent money to keep us there," Jeter said. "We always knew that if we wanted to stay, we needed to win. The Boss was a big part of that; you need to have buy-in from your ownership and a commitment to giving the organization a chance to win every year. He did that."

By the end of the century, Steinbrenner's popularity was at an all-time high, and his fame had begun to transcend baseball. He hosted *Saturday Night Live* in 1990, and he was portrayed in the iconic TV comedy *Seinfeld* as an exaggerated and hilarious version of himself.

Having recently signed a $100 million sponsorship deal with Adidas, and with exponential growth of the Yankees brand and business on his mind, Steinbrenner hired Randy Levine in 2000. Before he was named president of the Yankees, Levine served as New York City's deputy mayor for economic development, planning and administration. He also served as the city's labor commissioner.

"George came to me and said, 'I have a great baseball team, but I need to build a sports and entertainment company,'" Levine said. "He knew what he didn't know, but he asked me to work with him to do it. We had great people in place — Hal Steinbrenner, Lonn Trost, Steve Swindal, Andy Rey, Mark Tate, Norman Stallings and Tony Bruno — and we all did it."

The first major accomplishment was the establishment of the YES Network, the most-watched regional sports network in the United States. Launched in 2002, the YES Network, which reportedly generated more than $600 million in revenue last year, has become the gold standard for RSNs.

"It was a tough battle," said Levine, a principal founder of YES. "But it was visionary."

After decades of hard work leading to a deal that worked for the city, state and team and that had ideal infrastructure in place, the Yankees began building a new state-of-the-art home across the street from the team's historic ballpark.

With Steinbrenner on hand in 2006, the team broke ground on the current Stadium, a venue that not only serves as the Yankees' home but has also hosted soccer matches, hockey games, concerts and the annual Pinstripe Bowl, a nationally televised college football bowl game.

"Honestly, it took a lot of convincing of George to stay in the Bronx," Levine said. "But once he decided to do so, he was all in. He basically told me and Lonn, Hal and Steve, that if we were going to do this, we were going to create the best stadium that had ever been built. So, we re-created the original 1923 stadium, and he spared no expenses. It was $1.6 billion. Back then, there was no stadium that was even close to that amount. At the end of the day, what I remember most is him saying, 'Go do it, but it better be absolutely great.'"

Before the Yankees took their new field for the first time on Opening Day 2009, the team's brass founded Legends Hospitality in conjunction with the Dallas Cowboys. The global premium experiences company delivers holistic solutions for legendary

HANK STEINBRENNER

[FROM L]: CHRISTINA STEINBRENNER, JENNIFER STEINBRENNER SWINDAL, JOAN STEINBRENNER AND JESSICA STEINBRENNER

HAL STEINBRENNER

The standard that George Steinbrenner set has been upheld by his family in myriad ways. Today, the Yankees are one of the most highly valued sports franchises on the planet, thanks to a win-first mentality that remains ever-present.

brands in the sports, music and entertainment industry.

Recently valued at $1.35 billion, Legends operates within a diverse group of venues including Yankee Stadium, AT&T Stadium, One World Observatory, SoFi Stadium and the University of Notre Dame. The company also has partnerships with renowned properties such as the National Football League, Major League Baseball, the Professional Golfers' Association of America, NASCAR and the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

"It was one thing after another, and none of them could have been done without George's support financially, intellectually and emotionally," Levine said. "He pushed us, and he backed us when things got really difficult, as they always do. He never wavered."

With several of the core players from the late '90s still on the roster, the Yankees — now under the stewardship of Hal Steinbrenner — made it back to the top in 2009, defeating the Phillies in the Fall Classic. That championship, which followed AL pennants in 2001 and 2003, would be George Steinbrenner's last. He died less than a year after the final out was made, on July 13, 2010, nine days after his 80th birthday.

"He was a massive competitor," Cashman said. "Uber competitor. He woke up every day looking to take ground from an opponent, whether that was on the baseball field or in business. He was a conqueror, and he acted that way."

"George was the greatest owner in professional sports," Levine said. "He was the benchmark in so many ways, both on the field and off the field. All of the things that the Yankees were on the field and commercially were really done through his will."

Steinbrenner's children — and several of his grandchildren, who are now part of the Yankees organization — have upheld his legacy in every way. His youngest daughter, Jessica, has served as general partner for the last 14 seasons. Additionally, she has remained dedicated to the family's horse farm in Florida, enabling her siblings to focus on the baseball team.

For 50 years, winning the World Series has been the top priority for the Steinbrenner family. Seven times, that goal has been reached, most recently in 2009, when Hal Steinbrenner, in his first season as managing general partner, hoisted the Commissioner's Trophy following the Yankees' six-game triumph over the Phillies that capped off a magical inaugural season in the team's new home.

"Our family is proud to continue the Yankees' legacy in much the same way as my dad," Jessica Steinbrenner said. "He found a way to put the best team on the field, and he rebuilt the brand, and that's what we are carrying forward."

The Boss' oldest son, Hank — who passed away in 2020 at age 63 — held the title of general partner and co-chairperson for more than a decade, working with his younger brother on every aspect of the team's business and baseball operations.

"Hank had a love of baseball," Hal Steinbrenner said. "He knew every player in the game. He knew far more about the game itself than I probably ever will. He certainly taught me a lot about the game and how to do this job effectively."

The Yankees' current managing general partner may be humble, and he may be mild mannered compared to his father. But to those in the front-office trenches with him, those characteristics don't paint the whole picture.

"Hal likes to operate a lot quieter than his dad did, but their passion for winning is the same," Bruno said. "I have had the chance to spend a lot of time with Hal during playoff

games and pennant races, and he really carries that passion. He goes about it a different way than his dad did, but he has that same desire."

"Hal's commitment level is exceptional," Cashman said. "His dedication to having a playoff-contending team and delivering that on a year in and year out basis seems to be second to none. Strength and stability are two words that describe what he's been."

To this point, Steinbrenner's tenure has been highlighted by the 2009 World Series championship. While not garnering as many headlines, the Yankees have also posted a winning record in every season since he took the reins in November 2008 and have made it to the postseason in 11 of his first 14 campaigns.

An example of Steinbrenner's commitment to winning and his all-in mentality came recently. After breaking the American League record with 62 home runs, Aaron Judge entered free agency. It was well publicized that the Yankees wanted Judge to remain in pinstripes and that losing the homegrown MVP would have been devastating.

"Owners hire general managers to do the heavy lifting," Cashman said. "But there are unique circumstances that necessitate ownership's involvement. When you're dealing with the type of contract that Aaron was going to demand, it's a partnership. I shared with Hal early on that he was going to have to be heavily involved in this. Aaron is a franchise player, and he was going to be courted by every team under the sun at the highest level, and we were going to have to match that. He was going to want to hear the messaging not through me but directly from our owner. Hal was completely on board."

From a private meeting with Judge at his home soon after the 2022 season ended to a middle-of-the-night phone call to the slugger as he mulled over a competitive offer from the San Francisco Giants, Steinbrenner left no stone unturned. At the end of the saga, Judge signed a nine-year deal with the Yankees.

"What the Steinbrenner family has built here is something special," Judge said. "[Hal] wants to continue to build on that legacy."

George Steinbrenner would certainly be proud of his son's approach to the Judge negotiations, and he would be equally as prideful in what his organization has done in local communities over the last decade.

With Jennifer Steinbrenner Swindal leading the charge, the team's impact in the Bronx and Tampa — and in many other areas — is as strong as ever. From

Hal Steinbrenner displayed his family's hallmark commitment to winning this past offseason by signing Judge [L] to a nine-year contract. The managing general partner got personally involved in the negotiations to ensure that the superstar slugger would remain in pinstripes. "Owners hire general managers to do the heavy lifting, but there are unique circumstances that necessitate ownership's involvement," says Cashman. "Hal was completely on board."

Yankees
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large-scale donations to the Food Bank for NYC, to strengthening the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay and the Bronx, the organization's outreach is wide ranging.

"With the foundation, we're making it happen in our communities," Steinbrenner Swindal said. "We're getting money to people most in need with the Tampa Foundation and in New York City. We have made a huge impact with children, and that means a lot to me. The organizations we work with can depend on us."

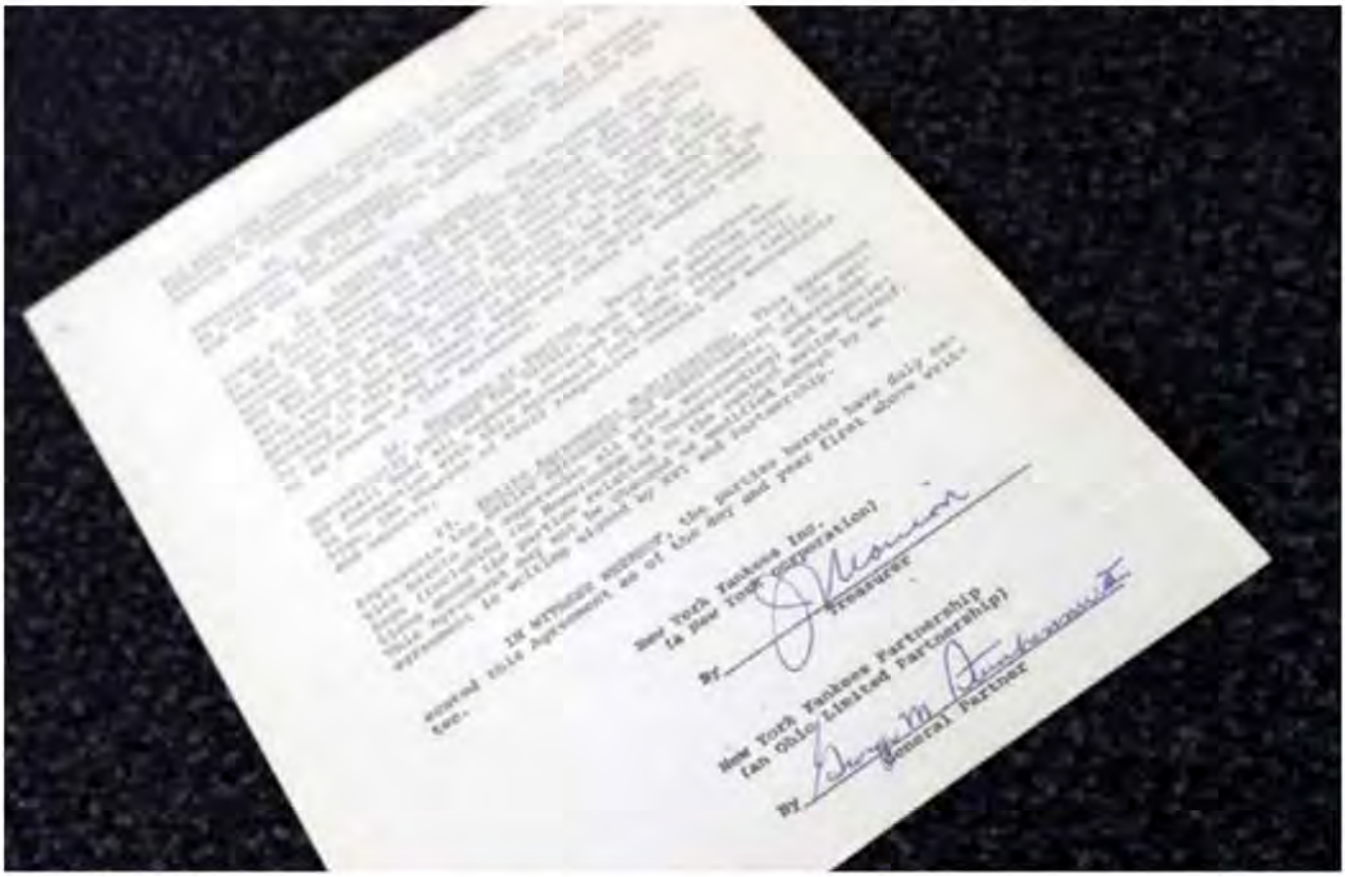
Steinbrenner Swindal also supervises a series of holiday concerts in Tampa that have been a tradition for more than three decades, and in recent years, she has been instrumental in the development of the Bronx Winter Wonderland event, complete with music, food and a present for each child in attendance.

The dream that was fueled by George Steinbrenner's passion for sports and was born in a Buffalo, New York, restaurant has now reached its golden anniversary. Encompassed by Yankee Global Enterprises, the once struggling team and its related businesses — which also include investments in the Italian Serie A club AC Milan and the 2021 MLS Cup champion New York City Football Club — are worth approximately $7 billion today.

With all that has happened during the Steinbrenner era, there are but a few reminders of just how fast the five decades have flown by. One of them is a precious document, still in pristine condition. Sitting at his desk inside Yankee Stadium, Trost recently retrieved the official purchase agreement from CBS.

"All of us who have had the opportunity and privilege to work for George Steinbrenner and the Steinbrenner family — Hank, Jenny, Jessica and Hal, the Yankees managing general partner — are and continue to be honored to have worked for a family that has had the foresight and passion to carry on the historic and continued legacy of the New York Yankees," Trost said.

The document's final page was signed on the day in 1973 that George Steinbrenner became the Boss, and the Yankees began their return to glory.



When George Steinbrenner inked his name to the purchase agreement above in 1973, no one could have imagined the seismic impact it would have. A half century later, it is one of the most significant documents in Yankees lore, on par with the contract that transferred Babe Ruth from Boston to New York. Had Steinbrenner's original plan to buy the New England Patriots come to fruition, history would look much different.

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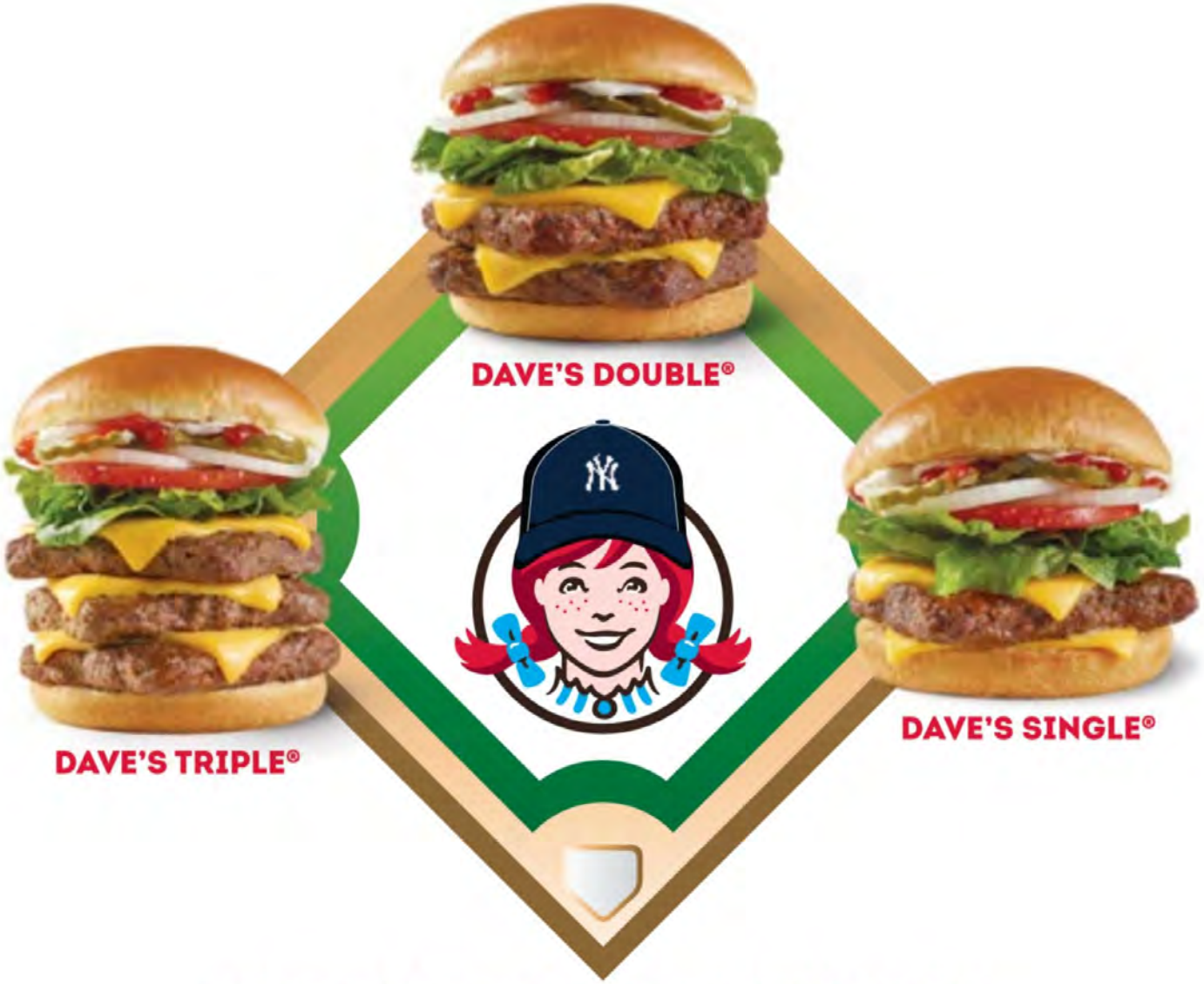

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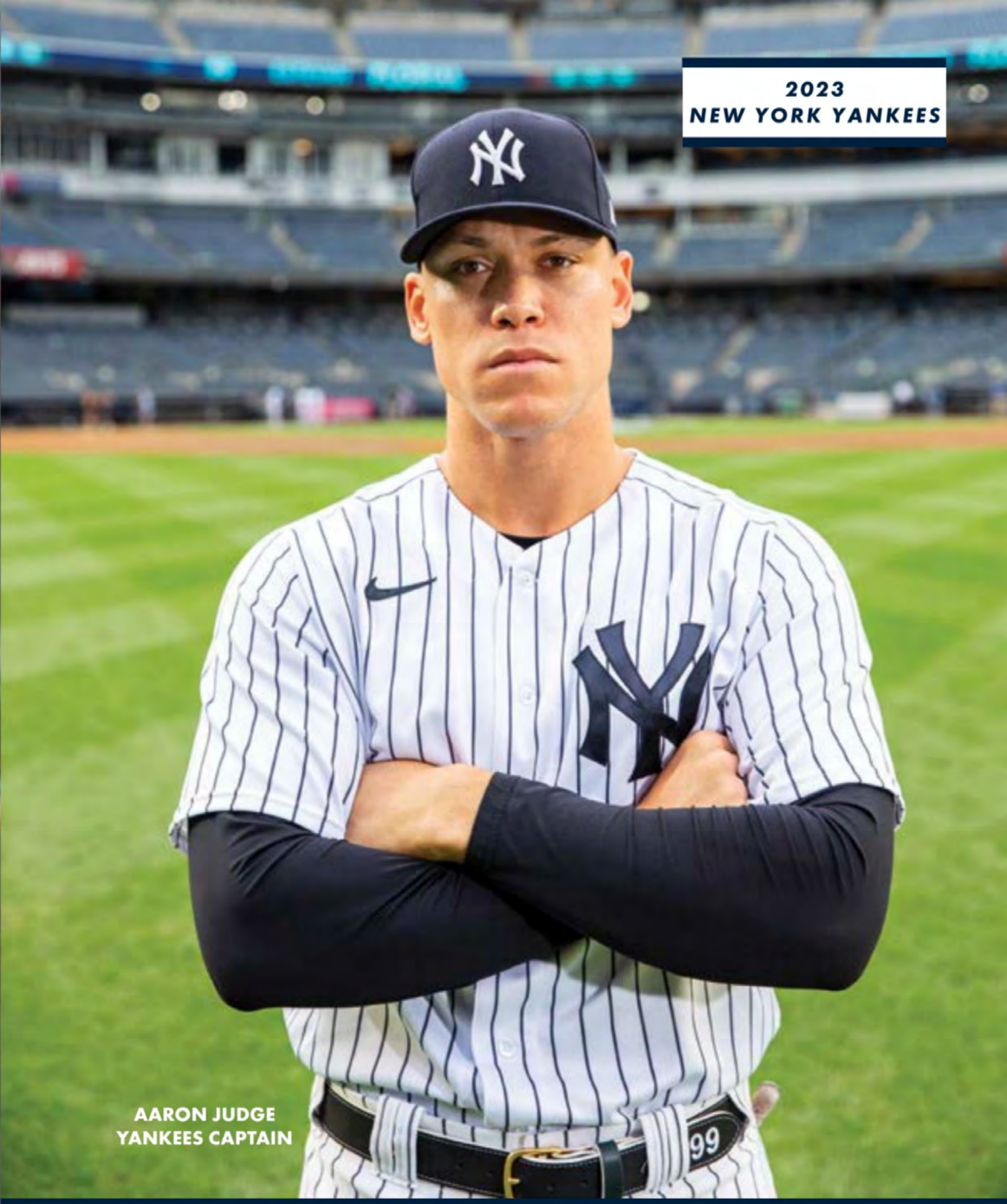

AARON JUDGE
YANKEES CAPTAIN

THE TIME IS NOW

THE 2023 YANKEES ARE DETERMINED TO GAIN FROM THEIR RECENT PAINS

BY NATHAN MACIBORSKI

Say this for Commissioner Rob Manfred: He's not afraid to shake things up. With a new-look schedule and a host of rule changes designed to improve pace of play and decrease the average length of games, the 2023 Major League Baseball season will look nothing like any of the 146 that came before it.

It will be a lot to absorb at first, but baseball's populace has always adapted to the game's evolution. Like New York City itself, where change is the only constant, the national pastime never stays stagnant for long. It might take a full season or more to determine which tweaks work well and which ones might need to be revisited, but at Yankee Stadium and on the sports-talk airwaves throughout the Big Apple, you can bet that fans and players alike will have strong opinions on all the changes before the first roll call emanates from the bleachers on Opening Day.

Another constant in New York is the Yankees' stated goal as they embark on a new season: to win the whole dang thing. The team has come agonizingly close, losing to Houston in the American League Championship Series in three of the last six seasons — experiences that have brought the returning players closer together as they try to turn the page and arrive at a happier ending.

"This isn't last year," Giancarlo Stanton said during spring training. "If you keep living back there, keep living in yesterday, then you can't accomplish as much today.

"We're all prepared, ready to go. There's a lot of the same crew, but some good additions as well. I just think we have obvious unfinished business to do, and our window is now."

Manager Aaron Boone echoed that sentiment, boiling down his team to one single word: focused. And while many assumed another showdown with the Astros for the AL pennant was a foregone conclusion, the sixth-year skipper was quick to pump the brakes and remind everyone of the work still to be done.

"I know there are a lot of guys who have knocked on that door and haven't broken through yet, and there's that [urgency] and that hunger and that desire, but it's important to also take it one step at a time," he said. "We're laying a foundation right now and trying to be uber focused on that process of: 'How do I get incrementally better each and every day personally, in everything that I'm diving in to, in how I'm interacting with my teammates, and not really getting ahead of myself.'"

Twenty-seven times in franchise history, that process has yielded the ultimate result. The 2023 Yankees seem well-equipped to make it 28. Of course, it will be no easy task, but what's certain is that it will be fascinating to watch this new iteration of baseball as it unfolds. Here's a primer on what Yankees fans have to look forward to in '23.

NY
OXI CLEAN

MARCH/APRIL

HOME AWAY

				30 SF	31	1 SF
2 SF	3 PHI	4 PHI	5 PHI	6 BAL	7	8 BAL
9 BAL	10 CLE	11 CLE	12 CLE	13 MIN	14 MIN	15 MIN
16 MIN	17	18 LAA	19 LAA	20 LAA	21 TOR	22 TOR
23 TOR	24 MIN	25 MIN	26 MIN	27 TEX	28 TEX	29 TEX
30 TEX						

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COLE

"There are a lot of guys who have knocked on that door and haven't broken through yet … but it's important to also take it one step at a time." —Boone

BOONE

The new **balanced schedule** — pitting each team against every other major league squad at least once during the regular season — will make for some interesting matchups, starting immediately. The Yankees begin the 2023 season at home on March 30 against the San Francisco Giants, then welcome the defending NL–champion Philadelphia Phillies, managed by longtime Yankees coach Rob Thomson, to the Bronx.

The Giants make for a fitting Opening Day foe, as they were the landlords who booted the Yankees from the Polo Grounds a century ago, spurring the construction of the original Yankee Stadium. The 100th anniversary of the first game in The House That Ruth Built, when right fielder Babe Ruth christened the new ballpark with a three-run homer in a 4-1 win over the Red Sox, is set for April 18 against the Los Angeles Angels.

For all the rule changes, including a **pitch timer** (15 seconds with the bases empty; 20 seconds with runners on), the strangest sight at Yankee Stadium in April might be Don Mattingly in another AL East team's uniform. The former Yankees captain returns to New York as Toronto's bench coach on April 21, when the Blue Jays will have to contend with the team's current captain, **Aaron Judge**. After signing a nine-year deal to remain in pinstripes last December, the homegrown superstar outfielder was named 16th captain in Yankees history and the first since Derek Jeter. The reigning AL MVP celebrates his 31st birthday in Minnesota on April 26, then returns to Globe Life Field in Texas, where he capped off his incredible 2022 season by swatting his record-breaking 62nd home run.

That game last Oct. 4 was also a memorable one for Yankees ace **Gerrit Cole**, who broke Ron Guidry's single-season franchise strikeout record of 248, which had stood since 1978. Cole finished with 257 K's, topping the majors for the second time in his career. Not far behind him on the major league leaderboard was **Carlos Rodón**, whose 237 strikeouts for the Giants in 2022 were second most in the NL. Rodón inked a six-year deal with the Yankees in December, meaning both he and Cole are signed through 2028 — eternity for opposing American League batters.

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14 TB	15 TOR	16 TOR	17 TOR	18 TOR	19 CIN	20 CIN
21 CIN	22	23 BAL	24 BAL	25 BAL	26 SD	27 SD
28 SD	29 SEA	30 SEA	31 SEA			

○ HOME ● AWAY

TORRES

With 29 games on the schedule, including 16 at Yankee Stadium, the Bombers will be a busy bunch in May. That's a good thing. The Yanks went 19-9 during the month of May in 2022, and for the season, their 57-24 record in the Bronx matched the Dodgers for the best home mark in all of baseball.

One reason for last May's surge was the bat of **Gleyber Torres**, who hit .300 over the final three weeks of the month, raising his season average by more than 40 points. Don't be shocked to see the sixth-year infielder make some noise during the Orioles series May 23–25: Of his 13 career multi–homer games entering this season, seven had come at Baltimore's expense. Four of those seven happened on days in May, including a three–homer outburst during a doubleheader sweep on May 15, 2019 — a single-day feat Torres would replicate against the O's at Yankee Stadium just three months later.

This season marks the 25th anniversary of the vaunted 1998 Yankees team that capped off its magical run with a four-game sweep of San Diego, which visits the Bronx over Memorial Day weekend. The Padres (as well as the Giants) tried adding Aaron Judge to their loaded roster during his free-agency period, but the California native never had any intention of going back to the West Coast.

"I think the biggest thing is finishing what we started here," Judge said. "From the minute I got drafted all the way back in 2013 up until now, it's been about bringing the championship back to New York, which, since I've been here, we haven't done. And that's what I ultimately want to do because CC Sabathia has told me a lot of good stories about what it's like to win in New York. I ultimately want to have that same feeling and bring something special back to the fans that continue to show out day in and day out for us."

With eight tough opponents on the schedule in May, including three division rivals and five teams that made the postseason last year, Judge and the Yankees will have an opportunity to test themselves against some of baseball's best on a near daily basis during the season's second month.

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JUNE

HOME AWAY

					1	2 LAD / 3 LAD
4 LAD	5	6 CWS	7 CWS	8 CWS	9 BOS	10 BOS
11 BOS	12	13 NYM	14 NYM	15	16 BOS	17 BOS
18 BOS	19	20 SEA	21 SEA	22 SEA	23 TEX	24 TEX
25 TEX	26	27 OAK	28 OAK	29 OAK	30 STL	

*Listings noted with a red border and an asterisk (*) have game times subject to determination by, among others, MLB and its television partners. Any future start-time changes to these games will also be accompanied by a change in the television partner.

LeMAHIEU

DONALDSON

If you're thinking of starting a book club or joining a bowling team but are concerned it'll cut into your Yankees viewing this season, know that your Mondays in June are all clear. You could conceivably go watch the defending AL East champs play weekend series in two of baseball's three oldest parks — Dodger Stadium and Fenway Park — and be back in time for your next meeting or match.

The last time the Yankees won a second straight AL East title, in 2012, they received contributions from a host of players in their mid- to late-30s, from Eric Chavez and Andruw Jones to Ichiro Suzuki and Hiroki Kuroda, to say nothing of Derek Jeter and Alex Rodriguez. For the 2023 Yanks to repeat as division champs, they, too, will lean on key veterans — several of whom are hoping to bounce back from a tough '22 season.

Entering his 11th big-league season — his eighth since being traded from Minnesota for John Ryan Murphy — 33-year-old outfielder **Aaron Hicks** is looking to stay healthy and provide the type of pop he supplied in 2018, when he set career highs in homers (27), RBI (79) and runs scored (90). Although Hicks' 130 games played in 2022 were the second most of his career, he suffered a knee injury during Game 5 of the ALDS that put a damper on the team's celebration that night and kept him out of the ALCS.

A return to form for **Josh Donaldson** would also give the Yanks a major boost this season. The 37-year-old third baseman shined at the hot corner in his first season in New York, but the offensive production that helped him win AL MVP honors with the Blue Jays in 2015 wasn't quite there. Yankees manager Aaron Boone remains steadfast in his belief that Donaldson's revival at the plate is coming, and the Yanks' first homestand in June could help fuel the resurgence: Entering 2023, his 22 career homers against the White Sox were his most against any opponent, followed by 19 against the Red Sox and Twins.

Toe troubles derailed what was shaping up to be another strong season in pinstripes for **DJ LeMahieu** in '22. One of just two players in history to win a batting title in both the National League and American League (Ed Delahanty, born in 1867, was the other), LeMahieu was hitting above .290 in early August when inflammation to his right second toe began to impact him. After grinding through the next month, he finally went on the injured list, and although he tried to will himself back to health in time for the postseason, it wasn't to be. Despite missing more than 20 games in September, the defensive stalwart earned his fourth career Gold Glove Award — his first with the Yankees and first given to an AL utility player. A fully healthy LeMahieu, who turns 35 in July, would be a boon to the Yankees' championship aspirations.

The last time the Yankees won a second straight AL East title, in 2012, they received contributions from a host of players in their mid- to late-30s. For the 2023 Yanks to repeat as division champs, they, too, will lean on key veterans.

Aaron Judge loved having the opportunity to play 78 games in center field in 2022. But he'll be even happier this season when he looks over there and sees **Harrison Bader** manning the position. A third-round pick of the Cardinals in 2015, Bader made his big-league debut at Busch Stadium on July 25, 2017, when he doubled to lead off the ninth for his first career hit and then came around to score in a 3-2 walk-off victory. The 2021 NL Gold Glove Award winner, who was traded to the Yankees on Aug. 2, 2022, is sure to receive a warm welcome from Redbird Nation upon his return to the Gateway City.

The following weekend, first baseman **Anthony Rizzo** will face *his* former NL Central team when the Cubs visit Yankee Stadium for a three-game set to close out the first half. The 13-year veteran figures to benefit from the **shift ban** — if there aren't two infielders on either side of second base with their feet on the infield dirt when a pitch is thrown, it can automatically be called a ball — as the left-handed pull hitter regularly faced a cadre of defensive players on the right side of the field in recent years.

"I'm obviously optimistic, like every lefty," Rizzo said after signing a new two-year deal with a club option for 2025 last November. "I feel like I've been very affected by the shift, as have a lot of lefties around the league. ... When you're not feeling good in this game and you could figure out a way to sneak a ball in the 3-4 hole or something like that and get a base hit, it just does wonders for you down the line. It helps you relax and loosen up, so, those maybe meaningless little singles in the hole there will turn a lot of us lefties into a lot more dangerous hitters."

The 93rd MLB All-Star Game is set to be held in Seattle for the first time since 2001, when Yankees ace Roger Clemens started for the Junior Circuit. The Yanks sent six players last year, including first-timer **Nestor Cortes**. To make it two in a row, the crafty left-hander with the occasional funky delivery will have to adapt to a new reality when it comes to balk calls. Pitchers are now allowed just two **disengagements** (pickoff throws or stepping off the rubber) during an at-bat; a third that doesn't result in a pickoff or stolen base will be called a balk. If anyone's up for the challenge, it's Nasty Nestor, who went 5-1 with a 2.15 ERA after the All-Star break in 2022.

Fellow starter **Luis Severino** also entered 2023 looking to build upon a strong second half and regain his All-Star form. Beset by injuries for the better part of three seasons, Sevy finally returned to full health last summer and reminded everyone of the pitcher who earned back-to-back All-Star nods in 2018 and '19. Like Cortes, Severino wasn't too worried about adjusting to the new rules, including the pitch timer. "I'm a guy who likes to work quickly, so it's not going to affect me," he said during spring training. "There's a lot of guys who have to change their mechanics and stuff like that. I know it's going to be tough for some guys. But so far for me, it has not been that hard."

Coincidentally, bobblehead nights are scheduled this month at Yankee Stadium for both Severino (July 7) and Cortes (July 21).

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
○ HOME ● AWAY						1 STL
2 STL	3 BAL	4 BAL	5 BAL	6 BAL	7 CHC	8 CHC
9 CHC	10	11	12	13	14 COL	15 COL
16 COL	17 LAA	18 LAA	19 LAA	20	21 KC	22 KC
23 KC	24	25 NYM	26 NYM	27	28 BAL	29 BAL
30 BAL	31 TB					

CORTES

RIZZO

"I'm obviously optimistic, like every lefty," Rizzo said of the shift ban. "When you're not feeling good in this game and you could figure out a way to sneak a ball in the 3-4 hole or something like that and get a base hit, it just does wonders for you down the line."

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
○ HOME ● AWAY		1 TB	2 TB	3 HOU	4 HOU	5 HOU
6 HOU	7 CWS	8 CWS	9 CWS	10	11 MIA	12 MIA
13 MIA	14 ATL	15 ATL	16 ATL	17	18 BOS	19 BOS
20 BOS	21	22 WSH	23 WSH	24 WSH	25 TB	26 TB
27 TB	28 DET	29 DET	30 DET	31 DET		

TREVINO

CABRERA

Between the new disengagement rules and **larger bases** that have increased from 15 inches to 18 inches, slowing down would-be base stealers will be significantly more challenging for catchers in 2023. Fortunately, the Yankees have two of the best defensive backstops in baseball in **Kyle Higashioka** and **Jose Trevino**. Higashioka, the longest tenured player in the Yankees organization, posted a catcher's ERA (3.54) in 2022 that was top 10 in the majors. Trevino, in his first season in pinstripes, became just the third catcher in Yankees history to win a Gold Glove Award and the first Yankee to take home AL Platinum Glove honors — given to the league's top overall defensive player — since the award's inception in 2011. To go along with a 3.09 catcher's ERA that was third best in the majors, Trevino topped the big leagues with 21 defensive runs saved according to Sports Info Solutions and threw out more than 60% of runners. He didn't anticipate much of a drop-off in 2023, given the pride that Yankees pitchers take in controlling the running game.

> *"When I throw out guys, it's not necessarily on me the whole time. It's because the pitchers are giving me a good look, a good hold, whatever they're doing. So, I don't expect us to do anything crazy different. If anything, we're going to get better at it."*
>
> —Trevino

"We've got guys that care about if that runner's getting to second, if that runner's getting to third," he said. "When I throw out guys, it's not necessarily on me the whole time. It's because the pitchers are giving me a good look, a good hold, whatever they're doing. So, I don't expect us to do anything crazy different. If anything, we're going to get better at it."

On the flip side, the 2023 Yankees will look to use the new rules to their advantage on the basepaths and continue an upward trend. (Their 102 steals in 2022 were the team's most since 2014.) Even without attempting a single steal last August, **Isiah Kiner-Falefa** led the Yanks with 22 thefts last season, followed by Aaron Judge, whose 6-foot-7, 282-pound frame didn't stop him from nabbing a career-high 16 bases. Those guys will have a convoy of fleet-footed youngsters behind them, pushing for playing time and putting pressure on opposing defenses with their baserunning. As Opening Day neared, **Oswaldo Cabrera**, **Oswald Peraza** and **Estevan Florial** were all under 26 years old, on the 40-man roster and had recorded 20 steals or more in a minor league season. With prospects **Anthony Volpe** (whose 50 steals across Double-A and Triple-A in '22 were the most of any player in the organization) and **Jasson Domínguez** (who was fourth with 37 steals across three levels and second with seven triples) knocking on the door, the Bronx Bombers might become the Bronx Burners in short order.

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					1 HOU	2 HOU
3 HOU	4	5 DET	6 DET	7 DET	8 MIL	9 MIL
10 MIL	11 BOS	12 BOS	13 BOS	14 BOS	15 PIT	16 PIT
17 PIT	18	19 TOR	20 TOR	21 TOR	22 ARI	23 ARI
24 ARI	25	26 TOR	27 TOR	28 TOR	29 KC	30 KC
1 KC						

○ HOME ● AWAY

STANTON

If the stretch run in 2023 is anything like it was in '22, when breathless fans hung on every pitch thrown to Aaron Judge, Yankee Stadium will be rocking into October.

Will Judge's encore see him return to the 60–home run stratosphere? Can Gerrit Cole top the strikeout record he set just a year ago? Perhaps it'll be another Yankee who etches his name into the history books. **Giancarlo Stanton** enters his 14th big-league season just 22 home runs away from 400 for his career — a round number previously reached by just nine players while wearing a Yankees uniform. With four September games at Fenway Park — where he blasted three home runs and drove in 10 during an incendiary three-game set in September 2021 — and three games in Toronto, where he homered twice in his Yankees debut, Big G could be a big factor in locking up a second straight AL East division title.

> *"We know what's ahead of us and the expectations, and we're going to rise to those."* —Holmes

For all the crooked numbers that the Yankees' offense is capable of putting up, and all the strikeouts that the starting staff is capable of collecting, those stats wouldn't translate to wins without an airtight bullpen to lock down the late innings, which is exactly what general manager Brian Cashman and his crew have constructed.

Left-hander **Wandy Peralta** and right-hander **Jonathan Loáisiga** shined on the postseason stage in '22, with Peralta becoming the first Yankees pitcher to appear in all five games of an ALDS and Loáisiga holding opponents scoreless over his first nine innings of relief work. A fully healthy **Michael King** provides another elite arm out of a bullpen that was the stingiest in the majors in terms of home runs allowed (0.58 per nine innings pitched) last season. **Lou Trivino**, **Ron Marinaccio** and **Clarke Schmidt** (if he or **Domingo Germán** are not needed as starters) are among a group of talented relievers who should help form a solid bridge to All-Star closer **Clay Holmes**, whose scoreless streak of 29 games from April to June of 2022 broke Mariano Rivera's franchise record.

Holmes believes the Yankees' deep bullpen "can definitely be one of the strengths of the team and something that can be relied upon because there's so many of us that bring so much to the table down there." But he also believes that the entire team has what it takes to bring a championship back to New York, not only because of what they are capable of on the field but because of the bonds they have formed off it.

"This is a really, really good clubhouse," he said. "There's just some really good relationships here. Guys really push each other to be better, and that's created an environment that sets the team up for success. The big thing every team tries to figure out is how to play your best when it matters most at the end of the year. The experience we gained last year is just going to enable us to put ourselves in a position to be healthy and be our best at the end of the year, and I think this clubhouse is really set up for guys to be comfortable and thrive in those types of situations. So, I think we're looking forward to the challenge and we know what's ahead of us and the expectations, and we're going to rise to those."

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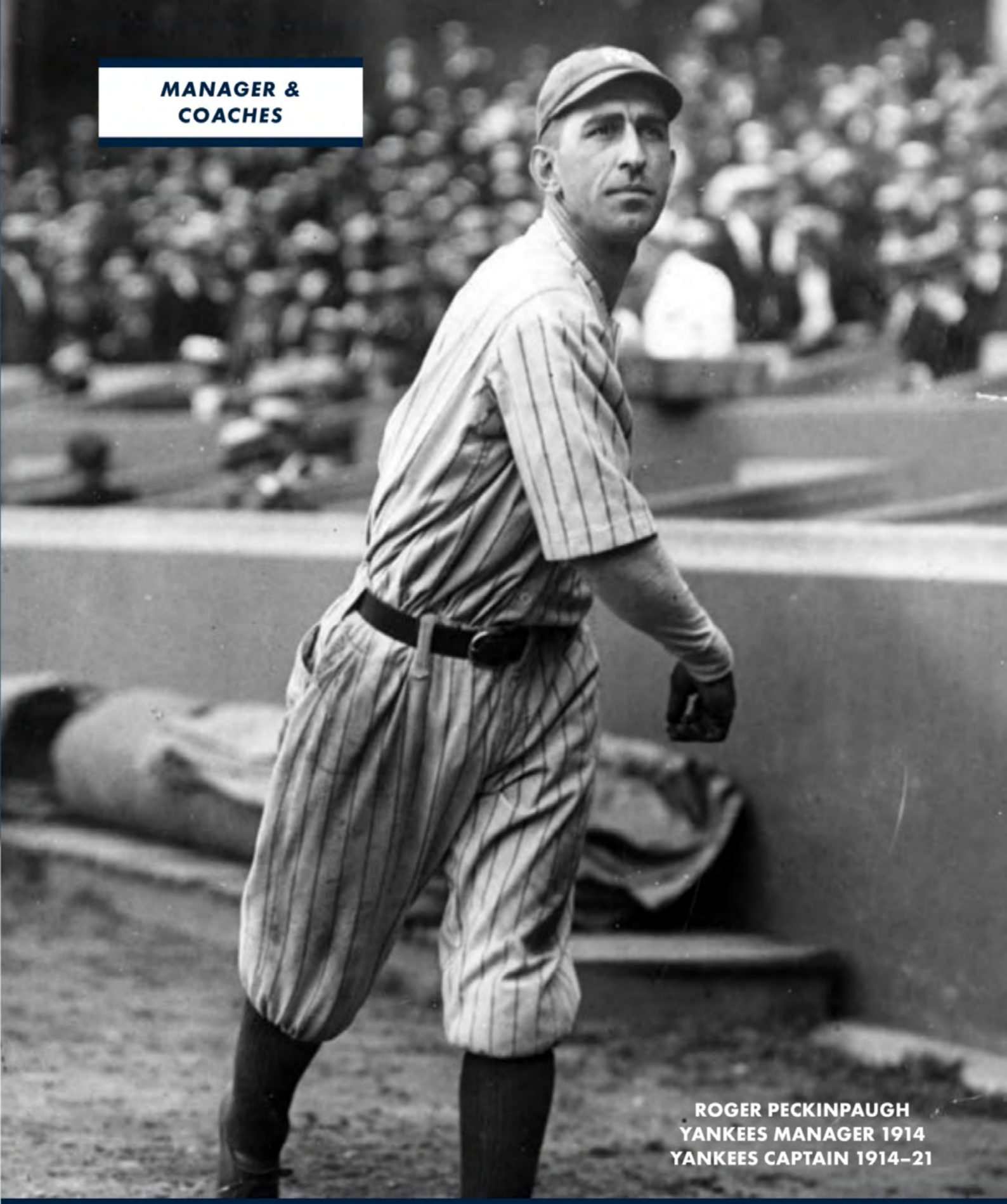
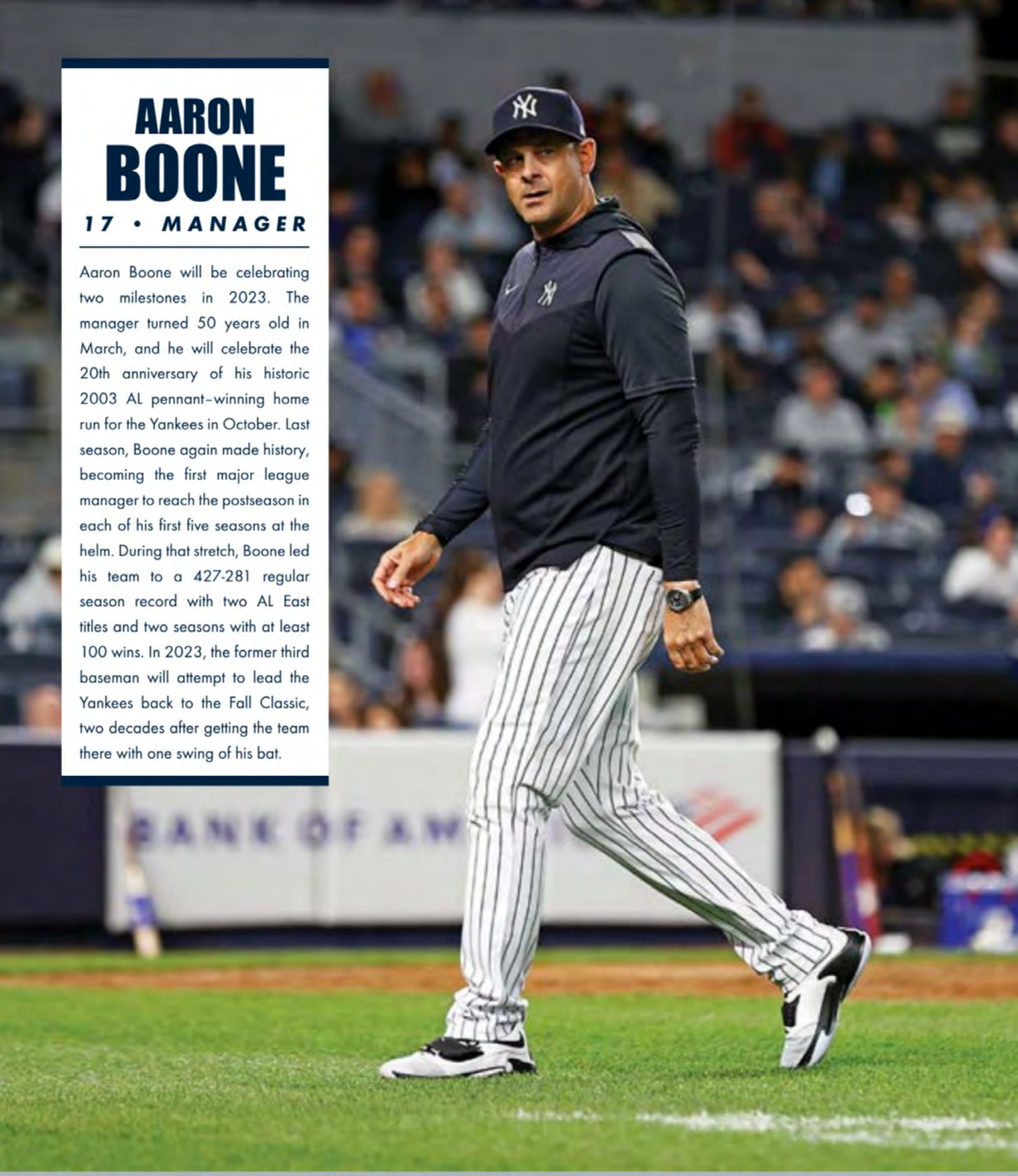


ROGER PECKINPAUGH
YANKEES MANAGER 1914
YANKEES CAPTAIN 1914–21

AARON BOONE

17 • MANAGER

Aaron Boone will be celebrating two milestones in 2023. The manager turned 50 years old in March, and he will celebrate the 20th anniversary of his historic 2003 AL pennant-winning home run for the Yankees in October. Last season, Boone again made history, becoming the first major league manager to reach the postseason in each of his first five seasons at the helm. During that stretch, Boone led his team to a 427-281 regular season record with two AL East titles and two seasons with at least 100 wins. In 2023, the former third baseman will attempt to lead the Yankees back to the Fall Classic, two decades after getting the team there with one swing of his bat.



DOB: 3/9/73 • HOMETOWN: LA MESA, CA • SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (LOS ANGELES, CA)

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CARLOS MENDOZA

64 • BENCH COACH

Someday, Carlos Mendoza will be a manager. Until then, Aaron Boone and the Yankees are fortunate to have someone with his experience in the dugout. Before ascending to his current role as bench coach prior to the 2020 season, Mendoza spent more than a decade working with young players in the Yankees' minor league system. He started out coaching in the low minors in 2009 and 2010 before managing at that level in 2011 and 2012, then served as the organization's infield coordinator for five years and the lower-level field coordinator, quality control and infield coach.

DOB: 11/27/79 • BIRTHPLACE: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA

DILLON LAWSON

74 • HITTING COACH

After three seasons as Yankees minor league hitting coordinator, Dillon Lawson joined the big club in 2022 and helped shepherd an offense that produced a major league-best 254 home runs and an American League-leading 807 runs scored. The second-year hitting coach will have a new assistant, Brad Wilkerson, on his 2023 staff as Lawson looks to build upon last year's success and go even deeper into October. What won't change, though, is a basic offensive philosophy that has served Lawson and his charges well: Hit strikes hard.

DOB: 5/23/85 • HOMETOWN: LOUISVILLE, KY • SCHOOL: TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY (LEXINGTON, KY)

CASEY DYKES

78 • ASST. HITTING COACH

As a collegiate baseball player at Western Kentucky from 2009 to 2012, Casey Dykes helped lead the Hilltoppers to rarely seen heights. The 33-year-old brings that same competitive fire to coaching, having risen through the ranks at an astronomical pace. In less than a decade's time, Dykes has gone from an assistant college coach to assistant hitting coach for the New York Yankees, working tirelessly to help some of the best hitters in baseball unlock their full potential.

DOB: 1/27/90 • HOMETOWN: FRANKLIN, TN • SCHOOL: WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY (BOWLING GREEN, KY)

BRAD WILKERSON

68 • ASST. HITTING COACH

Brad Wilkerson had been quite content on the coaching staff at Jacksonville University. But after speaking with Yankees hitting coach Dillon Lawson – whose mantra and ethic aligned perfectly with his own hitting philosophy – the former first-round pick of the Expos eagerly accepted the role vacated by Hensley Meulens. Wilkerson, who finished second in 2002 NL Rookie of the Year voting, brings eight seasons of big-league playing experience to the job, in addition to having coached at the collegiate, national and amateur levels.

DOB: 6/1/77 • HOMETOWN: OWENSBORO, KY • SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA (GAINESVILLE, FL)

MATT BLAKE

77 • PITCHING COACH

Now entering his fourth season in pinstripes, Matt Blake continues to gain recognition as one of baseball's brightest pitching coaches. The even-keeled New Hampshire native is adept at dealing with the ups and downs of a long season and fostering an environment that is conducive to pitchers reaching their peak performance. From record-setting aces to breakout stars to emerging young flamethrowers, Yankees hurlers of all stripes have thrived under Blake's tutelage.

DOB: 5/14/85 • HOMETOWN: CONCORD, NH • SCHOOL: COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS (WORCESTER, MA)

DESI DRUSCHEL

79 • ASST. PITCHING COACH

After joining the Yankees' player development team in 2019, Desi Druschel was promoted to the big-league staff before the 2022 season. Now entering his second year assisting pitching coach Matt Blake, Druschel joined the organization after years instructing in the college ranks, including back home at the University of Iowa. Long considered an innovator in his field, Druschel is adept at using video and other technologies to help develop elite pitches and pitchers.

DOB: 6/19/75 • HOMETOWN: VINTON, IA • SCHOOL: MOUNT MERCY UNIVERSITY (CEDAR RAPIDS, IA)

LUIS ROJAS

67 • 3B/OUTFIELD COACH

Luis Rojas has two years of managerial experience under his belt, to say nothing of the decade and a half or so he spent coaching and managing minor leaguers in both his native Dominican Republic and the U.S. But one of the biggest attributes on his professional resume is genealogical. A member of the famed Alou family, Rojas comes from baseball royalty. His father is Felipe Alou, the first Dominican star in the majors, who made three All-Star teams as a player and was the 1994 NL Manager of the Year. And Rojas is also the half-brother of six-time All-Star Moises Alou.

DOB: 9/1/81 • BIRTHPLACE: SANTO DOMINGO, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SANTO DOMINGO, D.R.

TRAVIS CHAPMAN

75 • 1B/INFIELD COACH

Over a 506-game minor league career, Travis Chapman enjoyed a nice bit of symmetry, finishing with 506 career hits. The high point of his playing days came on Sept. 9, 2003, when the infielder realized every Little Leaguer's dream of playing in the bigs. Although his time in the majors was limited to one at-bat, Chapman gained invaluable wisdom during his climb up the minor league ladder that he now imparts to Yankees players as the team's first base and infield coach.

DOB: 6/5/78 • HOMETOWN: JACKSONVILLE, FL • SCHOOL: MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY (MISSISSIPPI STATE, MS)

MIKE HARKEY

60 • BULLPEN COACH

In recent years, the Yankees' front office has put significant effort and resources into developing deep bullpens with any number of potential closers. The coach responsible for maximizing that group's output is Mike Harkey, who – but for two years spent with the Diamondbacks – has been directing Yankees relievers since 2008. A member of the coaching staff for the 2009 World Series champs, Harkey pitched in 131 big-league games from 1988 to 1997, but he's not the only member of his family thriving on the coaching circuit. Harkey's son, Cory, is a special teams assistant for the NFL's Buffalo Bills.

DOB: 10/25/66 • HOMETOWN: DIAMOND BAR, CA • SCHOOL: CAL STATE UNIVERSITY FULLERTON (FULLERTON, CA)

TANNER SWANSON

76 • QC/CATCHING COACH

The Yankees made a shift toward prioritizing defense at the catcher position in 2022, rolling into spring training with Kyle Higashioka and adding Jose Trevino before camp broke. For catching coach Tanner Swanson, it must have felt like an embarrassment of riches, and the results were clear as day. Trevino – in addition to an offensive effort that helped him earn a trip to Los Angeles for the 2022 All-Star Game – won the Platinum Glove for the American League, given to the circuit's best overall defensive player. A Washington native, Swanson previously coached with the Minnesota Twins before joining the Yankees for the 2020 season.

DOB: 8/31/82 • HOMETOWN: ROSLYN, WA • SCHOOL: CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY (ELLENSBURG, WA)

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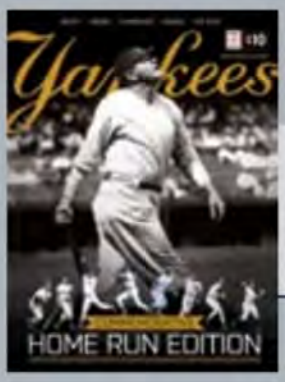

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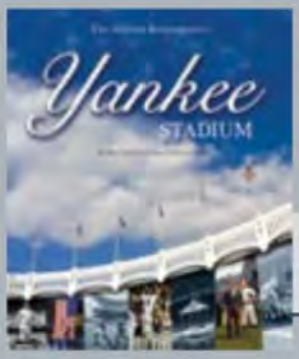

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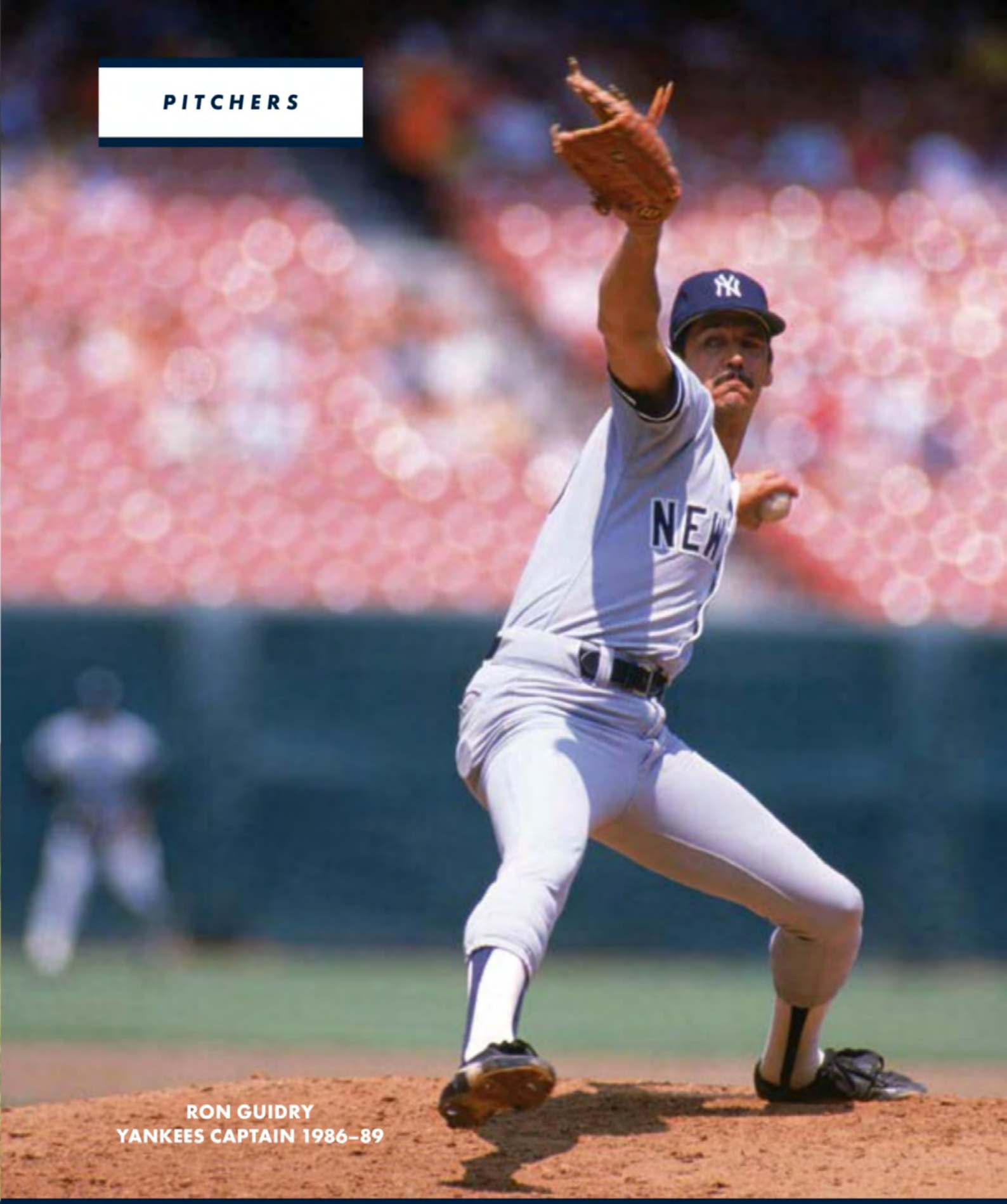

RON GUIDRY
YANKEES CAPTAIN 1986–89

ALBERT ABREU

84 • PITCHER

After spending the previous five seasons working his way up through the Yankees' system – including 28 appearances with the big club in 2021 – Albert Abreu experienced a whirlwind 2022 season, suiting up for three different big-league teams. When the Yankees traded the hard-throwing right-hander (along with minor leaguer Robert Ahlstrom) to Texas for catcher Jose Trevino just before Opening Day, it wasn't goodbye; it was "see you again soon." Texas traded Abreu to Kansas City in June, and the Yanks claimed him off waivers later that month. Back with the team for which he made his major league debut in 2020, Abreu looks to build upon last season's success in New York, where he regularly put up zeroes while pitching multiple innings out of the bullpen.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 9/26/95 • BIRTHPLACE: GUAYUBÍN, D.R. • HOMETOWN: GUAYUBÍN, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	2	2	3.26	33	0	0	0	0	38.2	35	15	14	5	22	38
CAREER	4	3	4.46	63	0	0	0	1	76.2	66	40	38	14	43	75

JHONY BRITO

76 • PITCHER

A starter for the bulk of his five minor league seasons, Jhony Brito kept sharp this past offseason by making four relief appearances for *Toros del Este* of the Dominican Winter League, picking up two wins and striking out 10 of the 30 batters he faced. The 25-year-old is knocking on the door to the majors after finishing second among all Yankees minor leaguers in victories (11) last season, going 5-2 with a 2.36 ERA in eight starts for Double-A Somerset and 6-2 with a 3.31 ERA in 18 appearances (15 starts) for Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. Known for his excellent control, Brito allowed just nine home runs across 112⅔ innings of work to go with a respectable 2.8 BB/9.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/17/98 • BIRTHPLACE: PUERTO PLATA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: PUERTO PLATA, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2022														
CAREER	HAS NOT PITCHED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES														

GERRIT COLE

45 • PITCHER

Gerrit Cole has been among baseball's most dominant starting pitchers for the better part of a decade. In his first 10 big-league seasons, the right-hander from California has gone 130-71 with a 3.23 ERA for the Pirates, Astros and Yankees while also winning the AL ERA title in 2019. More recently, he notched 13 victories in 2022 and led the majors with 257 strikeouts – a total that also surpassed Ron Guidry's single-season Yankees record of 248 that dated back to 1978. While personal records are nice, the five-time All-Star takes the hill in 2023 focused solely on the pursuit of his first World Series championship.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 9/8/90 • HOMETOWN: SANTA ANA, CA • SCHOOL: UCLA (LOS ANGELES, CA)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	13	8	3.50	33	33	0	0	0	200.2	154	81	78	33	50	257
CAREER	130	71	3.23	267	267	6	3	0	1,650	1,392	638	593	186	423	1,930

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JIMMY CORDERO

70 • PITCHER

Carlos Rodón isn't the only former White Sox hurler expected to give the Yankees' pitching staff a boost in 2023. After missing all of 2021 while recovering from Tommy John surgery, Jimmy Cordero signed with the Yankees and spent last season in Triple-A, where he struck out 50 batters in 38⅔ innings. One of four current Yankees (along with Rodón, Lou Trivino and Frankie Montas) to pitch in the final game of the 2020 AL Wild Card Series between the White Sox and A's, Cordero took over as the RailRiders' closer following Greg Weissert's promotion last season, recording six saves and a 2.13 ERA in 15 September appearances.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/19/91 • BIRTHPLACE: SAN CRISTÓBAL, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN CRISTÓBAL, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2022														
CAREER	3	5	4.55	83	0	0	0	0	83	82	46	42	8	32	65

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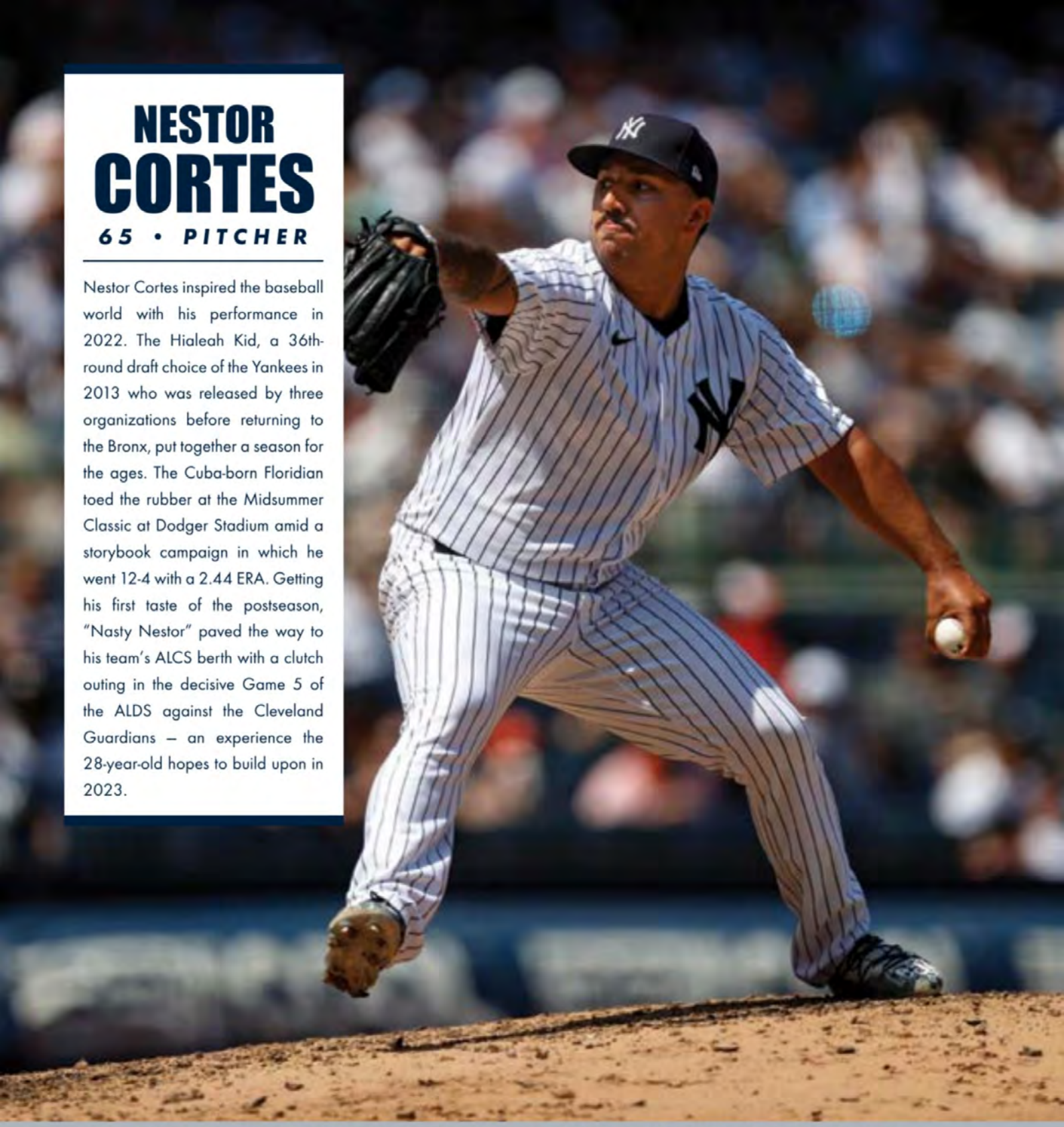
NESTOR CORTES

65 • PITCHER

Nestor Cortes inspired the baseball world with his performance in 2022. The Hialeah Kid, a 36th-round draft choice of the Yankees in 2013 who was released by three organizations before returning to the Bronx, put together a season for the ages. The Cuba-born Floridian toed the rubber at the Midsummer Classic at Dodger Stadium amid a storybook campaign in which he went 12-4 with a 2.44 ERA. Getting his first taste of the postseason, "Nasty Nestor" paved the way to his team's ALCS berth with a clutch outing in the decisive Game 5 of the ALDS against the Cleveland Guardians — an experience the 28-year-old hopes to build upon in 2023.



BATS: R • THROWS: L • DOB: 12/10/94 • HOMETOWN: HIALEAH, FL • SCHOOL: HIALEAH HS (HIALEAH, FL)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	12	4	2.44	28	28	1	1	0	158.1	108	44	43	16	38	163
CAREER	19	9	3.60	92	44	1	1	0	330.1	280	138	132	54	101	346

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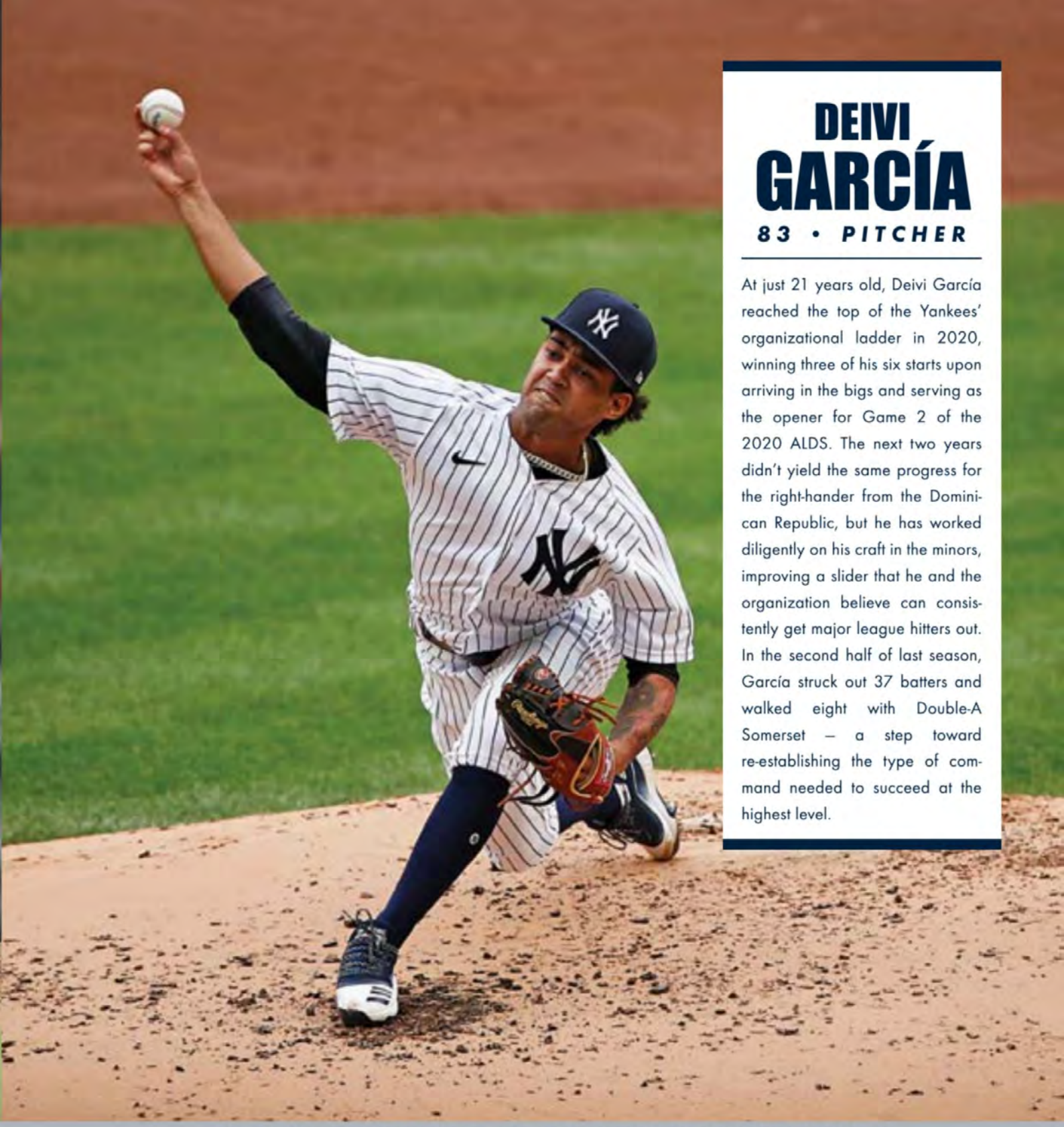
SCOTT EFFROSS

59 • PITCHER

Among a flurry of moves at the 2022 trade deadline, Yankees general manager Brian Cashman acquired right-handed reliever Scott Effross from the Cubs in exchange for right-handed starter Hayden Wesneski. At the time of the trade, the side-arming Effross was among the major league leaders in appearances, and his final numbers reveal why: In 60 games with the Cubs and Yankees, he held left-handed hitters to a paltry .127 batting average, and he stranded 29 of 33 (87.9%) inherited runners – the second-best mark in all of baseball. While October Tommy John surgery will keep Effross off the mound for all of 2023, the reliever should return in 2024 with four more seasons of team control.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 12/28/93 • HOMETOWN: TWINSBURG, OH • SCHOOL: INDIANA UNIVERSITY (BLOOMINGTON, IN)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	1	4	2.54	60	1	0	0	4	56.2	45	23	16	3	15	62
CAREER	3	5	2.78	74	1	0	0	4	71.1	58	29	22	5	16	80



DEIVI GARCÍA

83 • PITCHER

At just 21 years old, Deivi García reached the top of the Yankees' organizational ladder in 2020, winning three of his six starts upon arriving in the bigs and serving as the opener for Game 2 of the 2020 ALDS. The next two years didn't yield the same progress for the right-hander from the Dominican Republic, but he has worked diligently on his craft in the minors, improving a slider that he and the organization believe can consistently get major league hitters out. In the second half of last season, García struck out 37 batters and walked eight with Double-A Somerset — a step toward re-establishing the type of command needed to succeed at the highest level.

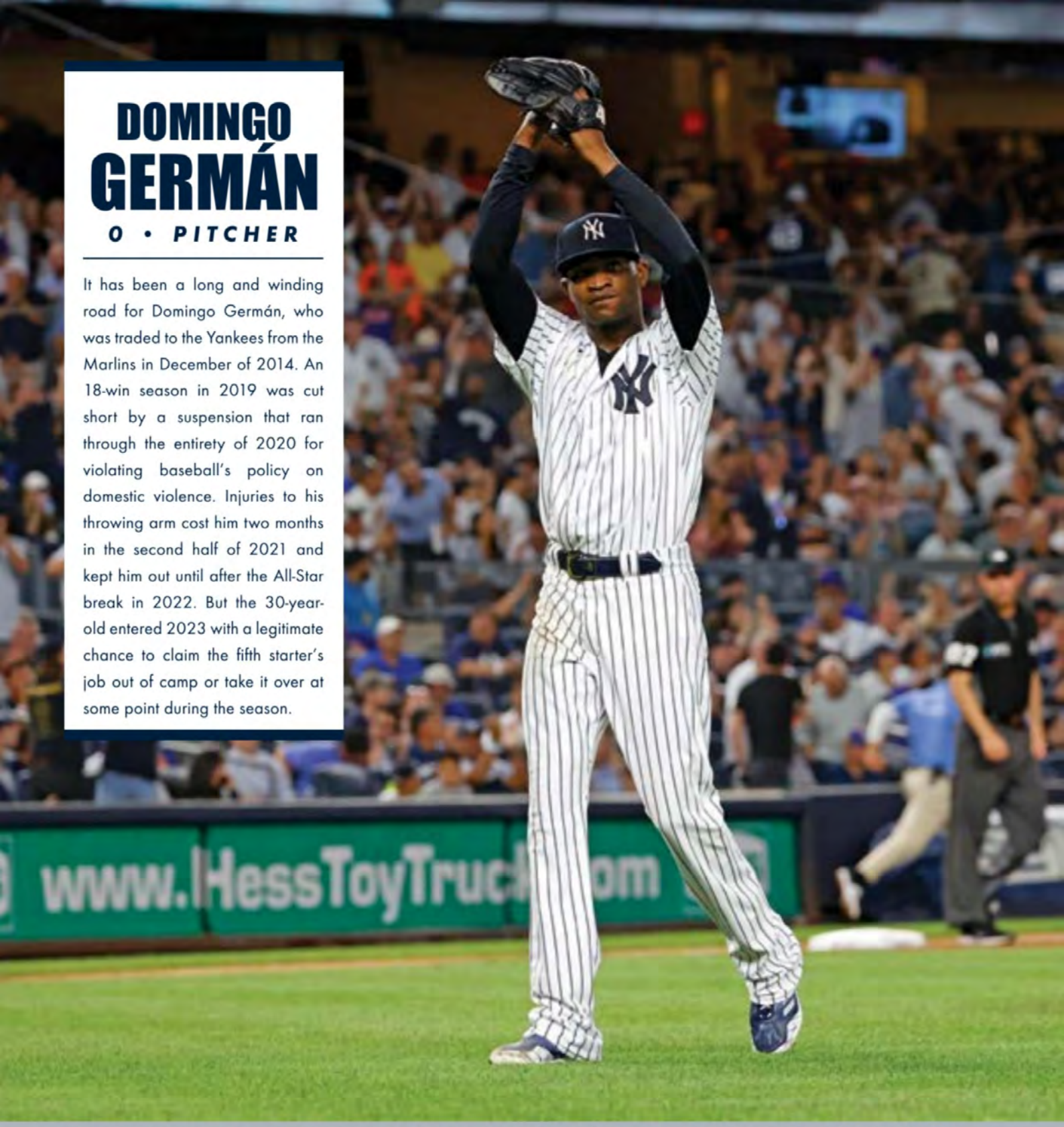
BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/19/99 • BIRTHPLACE: BONAO, D.R. • HOMETOWN: BONAO, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2022														
CAREER	3	4	5.27	8	8	0	0	0	42.2	43	27	25	7	10	40

DOMINGO GERMÁN

0 • PITCHER

It has been a long and winding road for Domingo Germán, who was traded to the Yankees from the Marlins in December of 2014. An 18-win season in 2019 was cut short by a suspension that ran through the entirety of 2020 for violating baseball's policy on domestic violence. Injuries to his throwing arm cost him two months in the second half of 2021 and kept him out until after the All-Star break in 2022. But the 30-year-old entered 2023 with a legitimate chance to claim the fifth starter's job out of camp or take it over at some point during the season.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 8/4/92 • BIRTHPLACE: SAN PEDRO DE MACORÍS, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN PEDRO DE MACORÍS, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	2	5	3.61	15	14	0	0	0	72.1	65	31	29	11	19	58
CAREER	26	21	4.37	92	70	0	0	0	413.2	371	213	201	74	127	429

LUIS GIL

81 • PITCHER

After rocketing from Double-A to the majors in 2021, Luis Gil seemed poised for a breakout 2022 campaign. Unfortunately, after just six starts for Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre and one for the Yankees in which he allowed a combined 23 earned runs in 25⅔ innings, the talented right-hander with the 100 mph fastball required Tommy John surgery. With an eye toward regaining the form he displayed upon arriving in the bigs two years ago – when he set a Yankees franchise record by twirling 18⅔ scoreless innings to begin his career – the Yankees' No. 16 prospect looks to re-establish himself in 2023.

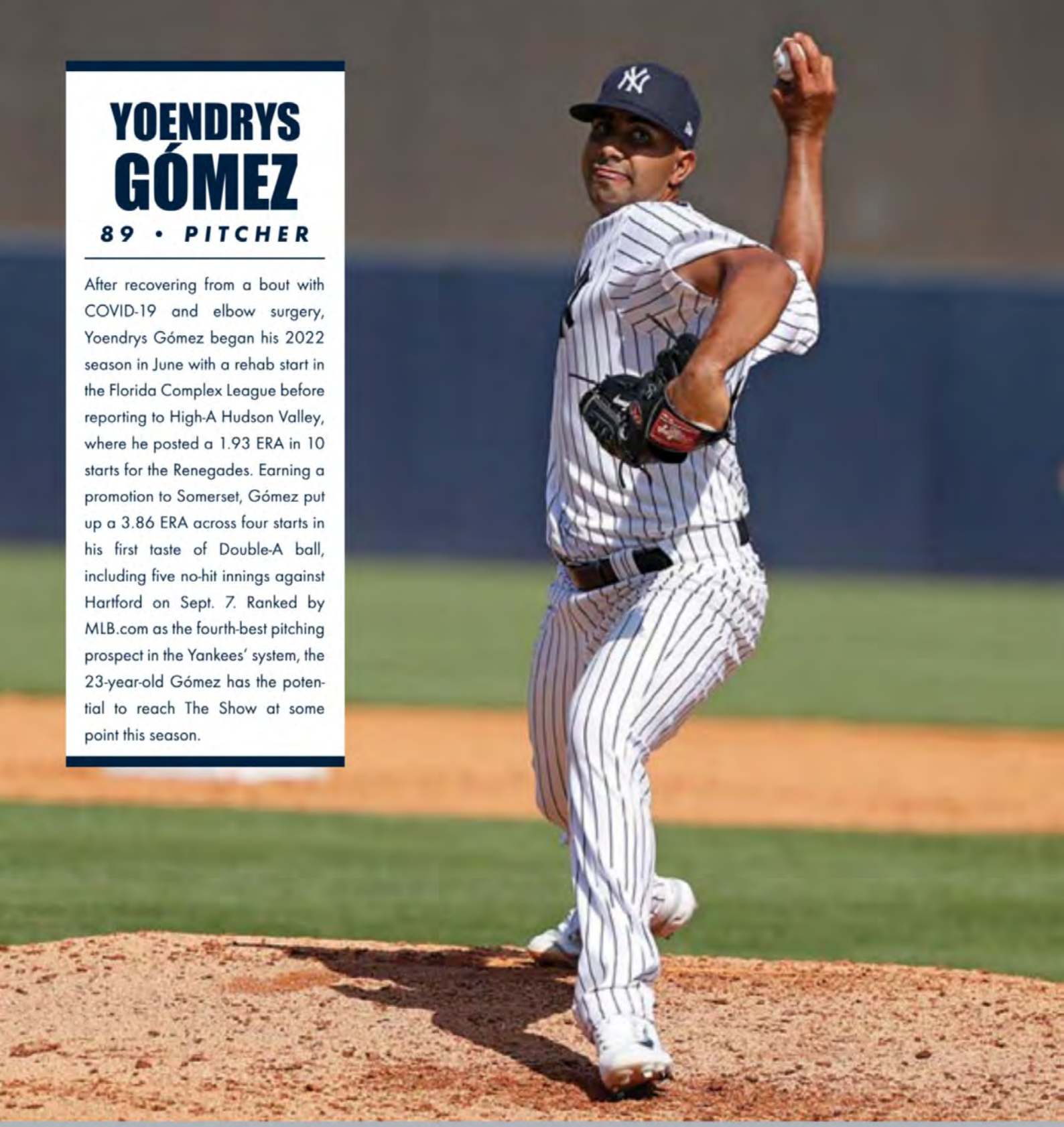
BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 6/3/98 • BIRTHPLACE: AZUA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: AZUA, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	0	0	9.00	1	1	0	0	0	4	5	4	4	0	2	5
CAREER	1	1	3.78	7	7	0	0	0	33.1	25	15	14	4	21	43

YOENDRYS GÓMEZ

89 • PITCHER

After recovering from a bout with COVID-19 and elbow surgery, Yoendrys Gómez began his 2022 season in June with a rehab start in the Florida Complex League before reporting to High-A Hudson Valley, where he posted a 1.93 ERA in 10 starts for the Renegades. Earning a promotion to Somerset, Gómez put up a 3.86 ERA across four starts in his first taste of Double-A ball, including five no-hit innings against Hartford on Sept. 7. Ranked by MLB.com as the fourth-best pitching prospect in the Yankees' system, the 23-year-old Gómez has the potential to reach The Show at some point this season.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/15/99 • BIRTHPLACE: NIRGUA, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: CHIVACOA, VENEZUELA

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2022														
CAREER	HAS NOT PITCHED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES														

CLAY HOLMES

35 • PITCHER

A major reason why the Yankees won 99 regular-season games en route to capturing the competitive AL East Division in 2022 was Clay Holmes. In the lead-up to his first career All-Star Game nod, he was nearly perfect, allowing just two earned runs in his first 38 appearances. Armed with an almost unhittable sinker that regularly registers in the high 90s, Holmes finished the regular season as the Yankees' leader in saves and appearances. After a roller-coaster tenure in Pittsburgh to start his career, the right-hander looks to continue solidifying his place among the league's elite relievers in his third season in pinstripes.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 3/27/93 • HOMETOWN: SLOCOMB, AL • SCHOOL: SLOCOMB HS (SLOCOMB, AL)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	7	4	2.54	62	0	0	0	20	63.2	45	21	18	2	20	65
CAREER	17	13	4.13	178	4	0	0	20	211.1	175	110	97	14	108	221

TOMMY KAHNLE

41 • PITCHER

Let the party resume! Reliever Tommy Kahnle spent more than three years with the Yankees, during which time he established himself as a boisterous, fun-loving addition to the clubhouse. When healthy, the upstate New York native has proven to be just as electric on the mound, providing clutch post-season performances during the Yanks' run to Game 7 of the 2017 ALCS. Back in the Bronx for a third tour of duty – he was the Yankees' fifth-round pick in 2010 before being selected by Colorado in the 2013 Rule 5 draft – after spending the last two seasons with the Dodgers, Kahnle hopes to help push the Yanks over the hump and into the World Series.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 8/7/89 • HOMETOWN: LATHAM, NY • SCHOOL: LYNN UNIVERSITY (BOCA RATON, FL)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	0	0	2.84	13	0	0	0	1	12.2	5	4	4	2	3	14
CAREER	9	9	3.78	298	0	0	0	5	290.1	230	142	122	30	135	358

MICHAEL KING

34 • PITCHER

Before suffering a fracture in his right elbow during a July 2022 game, Michael King was quickly becoming one of the most dominant relief pitchers in baseball. In 34 games, King had posted the lowest ERA of his career, to go with career highs in wins, strikeouts and K/9 (11.6). He made 16 appearances of more than one inning, and his 66:16 K/BB ratio helped pave the way for the Yankees' impressive first-half record. For King, whose goal in 2023 is to stay healthy for the entire season, the possibilities are limitless.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/25/95 • HOMETOWN: WARWICK, RI • SCHOOL: BOSTON COLLEGE (CHESTNUT HILL, MA)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	6	3	2.29	34	0	0	0	1	51	35	15	13	3	16	66
CAREER	9	9	3.84	66	10	0	0	1	143	124	68	61	14	51	155

MATT KROOK

92 • PITCHER

Matt Krook can strike out minor league batters in bunches. Can he punch out big leaguers, too? The Yankees believe so, having added the 6-foot-4 southpaw to their 40-man roster last November. A minor league Rule 5 Draft pick from Tampa Bay in 2020, Krook spent all of last season in Triple-A, striking out 155 batters in 29 appearances (22 starts). The 155 K's were second most of any Yankees farmhand and broke a Scranton/Wilkes-Barre franchise record that had stood for 25 years. Now 28 years old, Krook may finally get his first chance to prove himself in The Show.

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 10/21/94 • HOMETOWN: HILLSBOROUGH, CA • SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF OREGON (EUGENE, OR)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2022														
CAREER	HAS NOT PITCHED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES														

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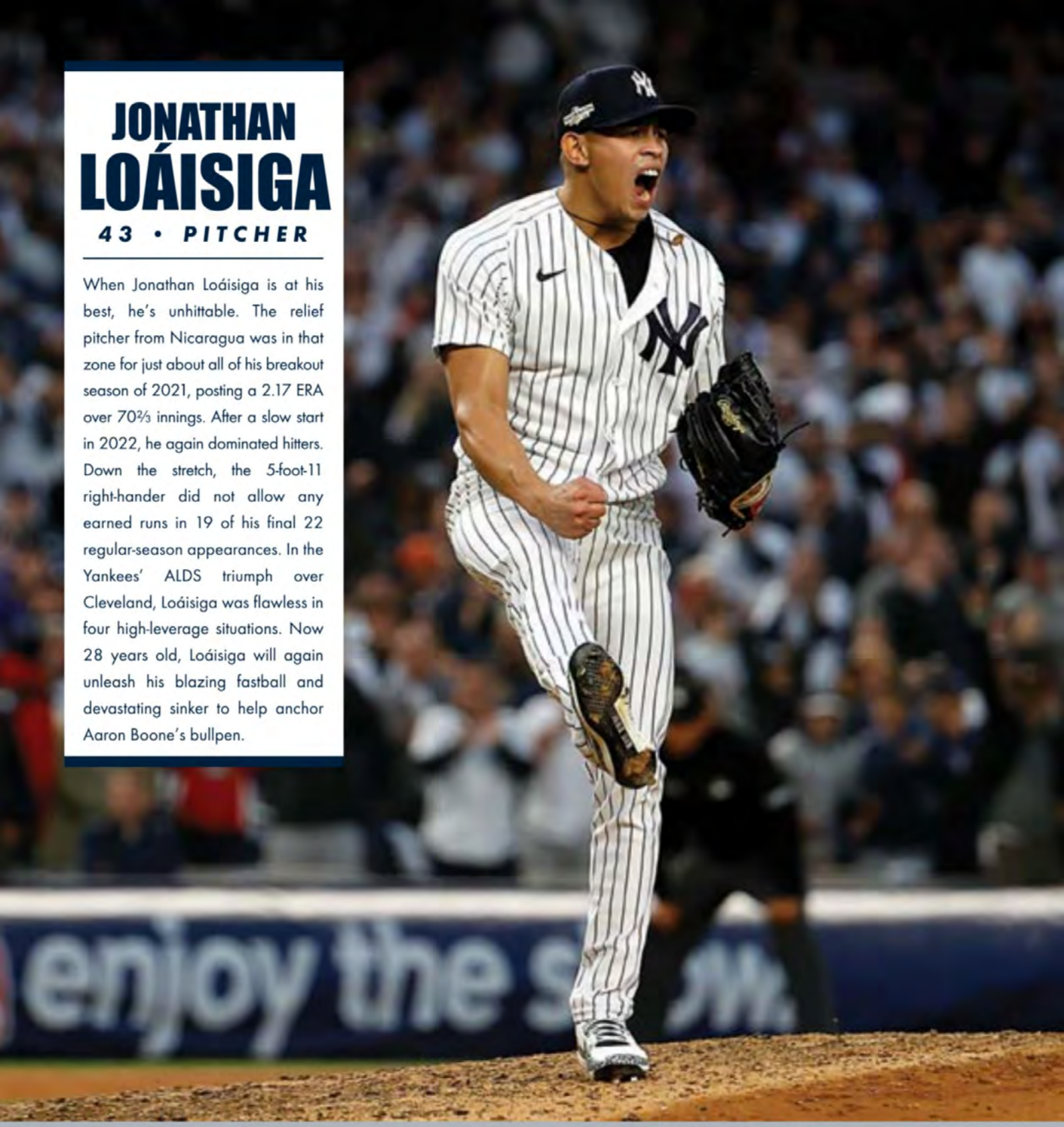
JONATHAN LOÁISIGA

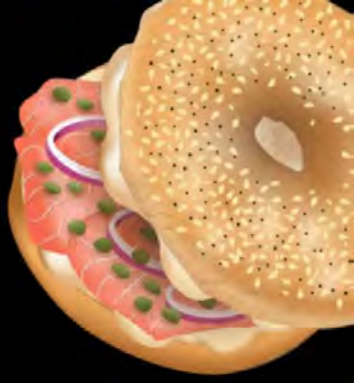
43 • PITCHER

When Jonathan Loáisiga is at his best, he's unhittable. The relief pitcher from Nicaragua was in that zone for just about all of his breakout season of 2021, posting a 2.17 ERA over 70⅔ innings. After a slow start in 2022, he again dominated hitters. Down the stretch, the 5-foot-11 right-hander did not allow any earned runs in 19 of his final 22 regular-season appearances. In the Yankees' ALDS triumph over Cleveland, Loáisiga was flawless in four high-leverage situations. Now 28 years old, Loáisiga will again unleash his blazing fastball and devastating sinker to help anchor Aaron Boone's bullpen.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/2/94 • BIRTHPLACE: MANAGUA, NICARAGUA • HOMETOWN: MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	2	3	4.13	50	0	0	0	2	48	43	25	22	3	19	37
CAREER	18	9	3.55	143	11	0	0	7	198	177	88	78	18	70	198



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RON MARINACCIO

97 • PITCHER

Ron Marinaccio appeared to be rattled after walking the first batter of his major league career on April 9, 2022. But the right-hander from Toms River, New Jersey, took a deep breath and then retired the next three Red Sox hitters in order. From there, Marinaccio kept it going, soon becoming one of manager Aaron Boone's most trusted relievers by posting a 2.05 ERA in 40 appearances. A 19th-round draft pick in 2017 out of the University of Delaware, Marinaccio has improved his repertoire while working all the way up from Rookie ball to a key place in the big club's bullpen.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 7/1/95 • HOMETOWN: TOMS RIVER, NJ • SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE (NEWARK, DE)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	1	0	2.05	40	0	0	0	0	44	22	12	10	2	24	56
CAREER	1	0	2.05	40	0	0	0	0	44	22	12	10	2	24	56

FRANKIE MONTAS

47 • PITCHER

Right-hander Frankie Montas has long been a highly coveted arm. The 30-year-old has pitched in five different organizations, having been a prized piece in four multi-player trades. The latest, on Aug. 1, 2022, brought him to New York from Oakland, where in 2021 he made an American League-leading 32 starts and finished top five in strikeouts, ERA, innings pitched and wins. Shoulder surgery was expected to keep Montas off the mound at the start of 2023, but the Yankees remain optimistic that the guy who took home AL Pitcher of the Month honors for September/October 2021 will soon re-emerge.

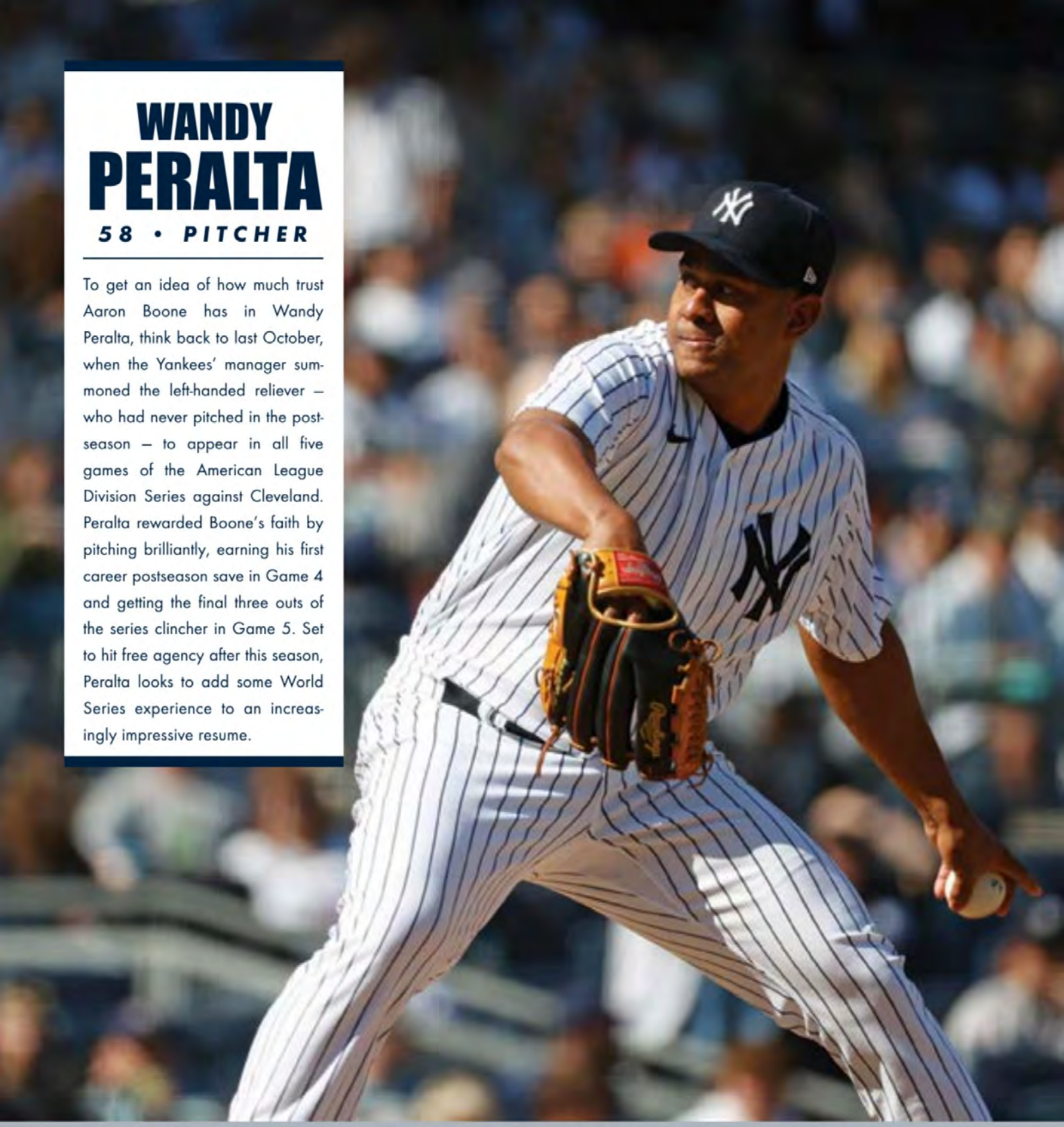
BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 3/21/93 • BIRTHPLACE: SAINAGUA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN CRISTOBAL, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	5	12	4.05	27	27	0	0	0	144.1	137	72	65	18	43	142
CAREER	36	35	3.90	129	99	0	0	0	592.1	569	288	257	72	196	611

WANDY PERALTA

58 • PITCHER

To get an idea of how much trust Aaron Boone has in Wandy Peralta, think back to last October, when the Yankees' manager summoned the left-handed reliever — who had never pitched in the postseason — to appear in all five games of the American League Division Series against Cleveland. Peralta rewarded Boone's faith by pitching brilliantly, earning his first career postseason save in Game 4 and getting the final three outs of the series clincher in Game 5. Set to hit free agency after this season, Peralta looks to add some World Series experience to an increasingly impressive resume.



BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 7/27/91 • BIRTHPLACE: SAN FRANCISCO DE MACORÍS, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN FRANCISCO DE MACORÍS, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	3	4	2.72	56	0	0	0	4	56.1	42	19	17	2	17	47
CAREER	15	16	4.07	322	1	0	0	9	291.2	275	148	132	33	127	240

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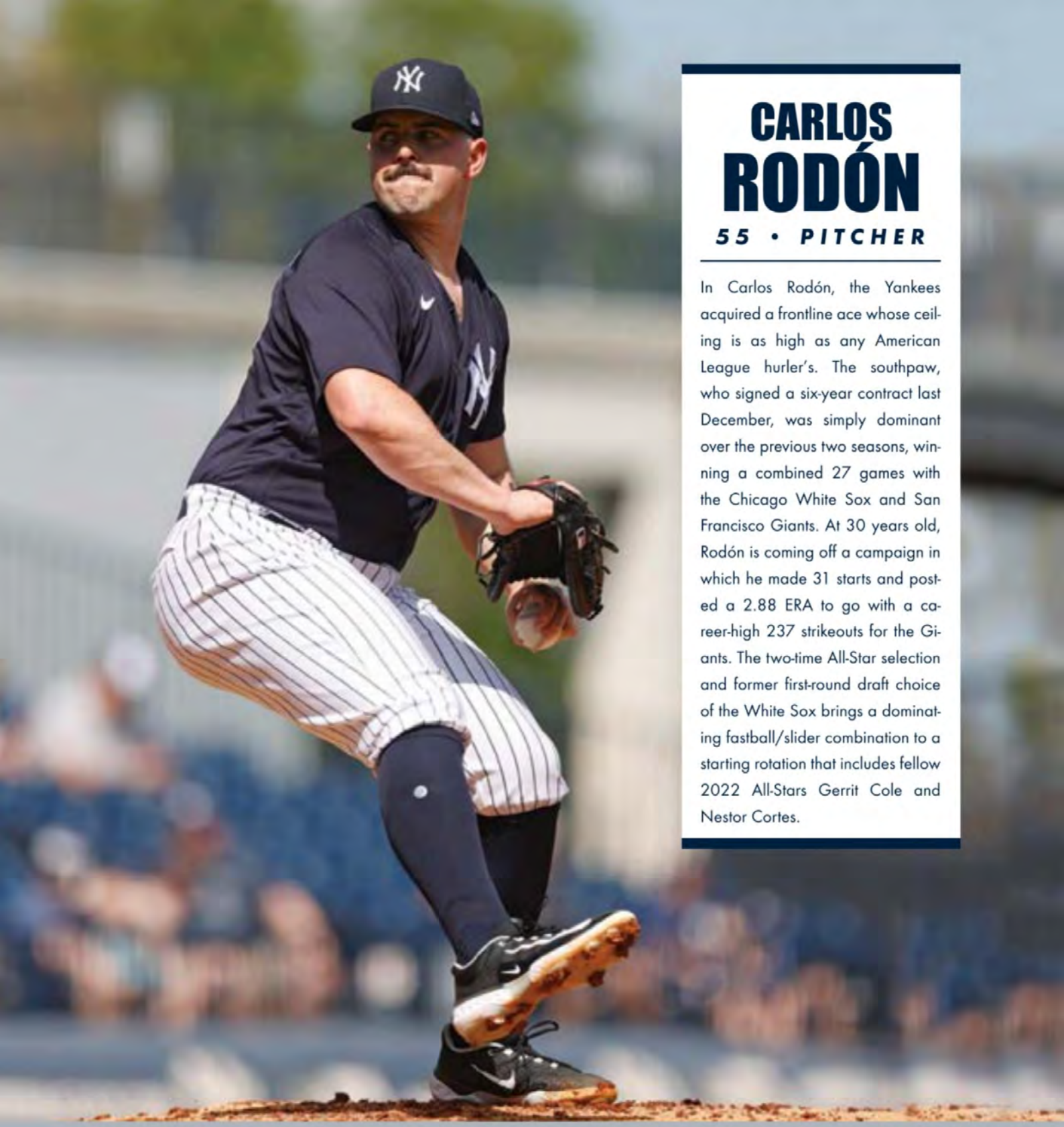

CARLOS RODÓN

55 • PITCHER

In Carlos Rodón, the Yankees acquired a frontline ace whose ceiling is as high as any American League hurler's. The southpaw, who signed a six-year contract last December, was simply dominant over the previous two seasons, winning a combined 27 games with the Chicago White Sox and San Francisco Giants. At 30 years old, Rodón is coming off a campaign in which he made 31 starts and posted a 2.88 ERA to go with a career-high 237 strikeouts for the Giants. The two-time All-Star selection and former first-round draft choice of the White Sox brings a dominating fastball/slider combination to a starting rotation that includes fellow 2022 All-Stars Gerrit Cole and Nestor Cortes.

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 12/10/92 • HOMETOWN: HOLLY SPRINGS, NC • SCHOOL: NC STATE UNIVERSITY (RALEIGH, NC)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	14	8	2.88	31	31	1	0	0	178	131	59	57	12	52	237
CAREER	56	46	3.60	152	147	3	1	0	847.1	731	368	339	91	319	947

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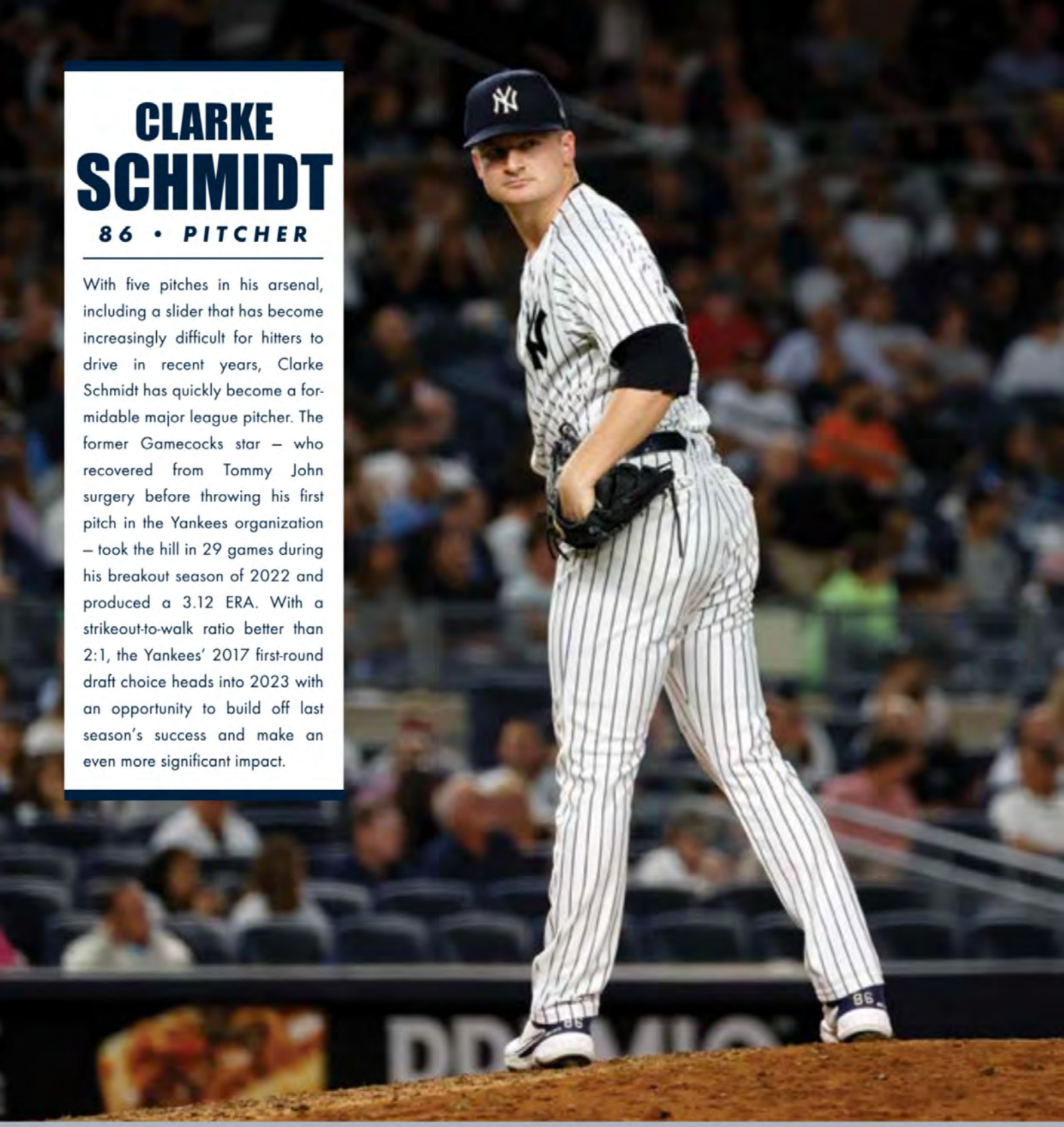
CLARKE SCHMIDT

86 • PITCHER

With five pitches in his arsenal, including a slider that has become increasingly difficult for hitters to drive in recent years, Clarke Schmidt has quickly become a formidable major league pitcher. The former Gamecocks star – who recovered from Tommy John surgery before throwing his first pitch in the Yankees organization – took the hill in 29 games during his breakout season of 2022 and produced a 3.12 ERA. With a strikeout-to-walk ratio better than 2:1, the Yankees' 2017 first-round draft choice heads into 2023 with an opportunity to build off last season's success and make an even more significant impact.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/20/96 • HOMETOWN: ACWORTH, GA • SCHOOL: UNIV. OF SOUTH CAROLINA (COLUMBIA, SC)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	5	5	3.12	29	3	0	0	2	57.2	46	23	20	5	23	56
CAREER	5	6	3.71	34	5	0	0	2	70.1	64	36	29	6	33	69

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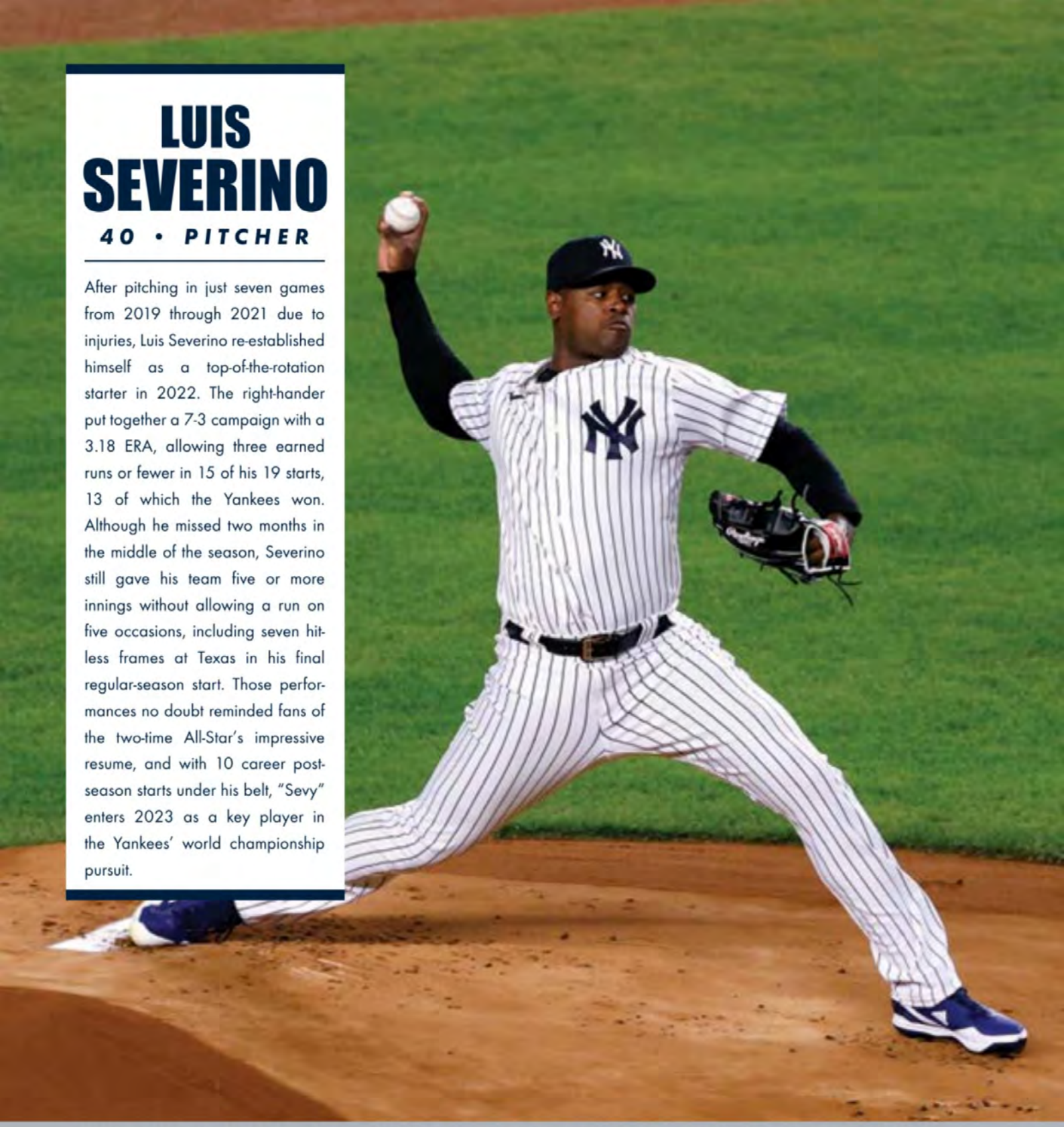
LUIS SEVERINO

40 • PITCHER

After pitching in just seven games from 2019 through 2021 due to injuries, Luis Severino re-established himself as a top-of-the-rotation starter in 2022. The right-hander put together a 7-3 campaign with a 3.18 ERA, allowing three earned runs or fewer in 15 of his 19 starts, 13 of which the Yankees won. Although he missed two months in the middle of the season, Severino still gave his team five or more innings without allowing a run on five occasions, including seven hitless frames at Texas in his final regular-season start. Those performances no doubt reminded fans of the two-time All-Star's impressive resume, and with 10 career postseason starts under his belt, "Sevy" enters 2023 as a key player in the Yankees' world championship pursuit.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/20/94 • BIRTHPLACE: SABANA DE LA MAR, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SABANA DE LA MAR, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	7	3	3.18	19	19	0	0	0	102	72	37	36	14	30	112
CAREER	50	29	3.39	122	107	1	1	0	638	534	257	240	74	181	709

LOU TRIVINO

56 • PITCHER

There might not have been as many headlines written about Lou Trivino as there were about other players who were dealt in 2022, but it's hard to imagine there were many who exceeded expectations as much as the reliever from Pennsylvania did for the Yankees. Immediately upon arriving in New York at the beginning of August, the right-hander – who was acquired from Oakland along with starter Frankie Montas for four players – dramatically turned his season around. Trivino's 1.66 ERA in 25 appearances helped solidify a Yankees bullpen in need of shut-down performances in the late innings. In 2023, the Yankees look forward to having Trivino – a six-year veteran capable of taking the ball in just about any in-game situation – on their roster from the start.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/1/91 • HOMETOWN: SELLERSVILLE, PA • SCHOOL: SLIPPERY ROCK UNIV. (SLIPPERY ROCK, PA)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	2	8	4.53	64	0	0	0	11	53.2	64	31	27	6	24	67
CAREER	21	25	3.86	285	1	0	0	37	284.2	252	137	122	29	130	299

RANDY VÁSQUEZ

98 • PITCHER

After a regular season in which he recorded career highs in starts (25) and innings pitched (115⅓), Randy Vásquez capped off his 2022 campaign with the Double-A Somerset Patriots in historic fashion. On the same night that Aaron Judge hit home run No. 61 in Toronto, Vásquez took the hill at TD Bank Ballpark in Game 3 of the best-of-three Eastern League Championship Series and twirled eight hitless innings. The Erie SeaWolves flailed in vain at his hard-spinning curveball as he led the Patriots to a decisive 15-0 no-hit victory and the franchise's first Eastern League title. Added to the Yankees' 40-man roster in November, the 24-year-old Vásquez looks poised to take another step forward in 2023.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/3/98 • BIRTHPLACE: NAVARETTE, D.R. • HOMETOWN: NAVARETTE, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2022														
CAREER	HAS NOT PITCHED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES														

GREG WEISSERT

85 • PITCHER

"Only up from here," Yankees manager Aaron Boone predicted after Greg Weissert hit two batters, balked and walked in a run in his big-league debut last August. Sure enough, the 18th-round pick from the South Shore of Long Island who had earned a promotion in nearly every one of his six minor league seasons soon found his groove, producing scoreless outings in nine of his next 11 appearances for the Yankees. Having posted a 1.69 ERA in 42 games at Triple-A before his call-up, the 28-year-old Fordham product enters 2023 prepared to put in a full season in the Bronx.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/4/95 • HOMETOWN: BAY SHORE, NY • SCHOOL: FORDHAM UNIVERSITY (BRONX, NY)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2022	3	0	5.56	12	0	0	0	0	11.1	6	7	7	1	5	11
CAREER	3	0	5.56	12	0	0	0	0	11.1	6	7	7	1	5	11

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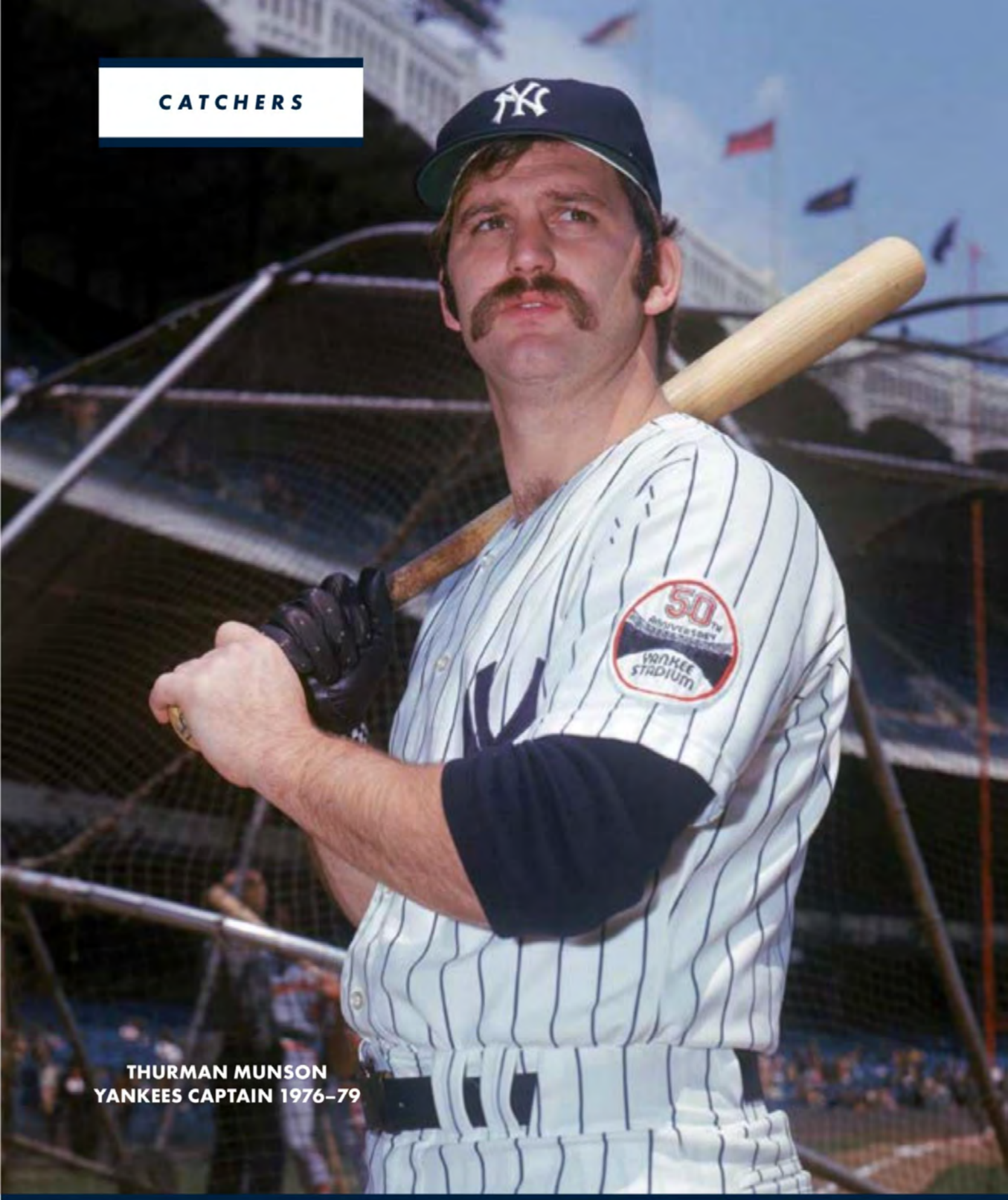


THURMAN MUNSON
YANKEES CAPTAIN 1976–79

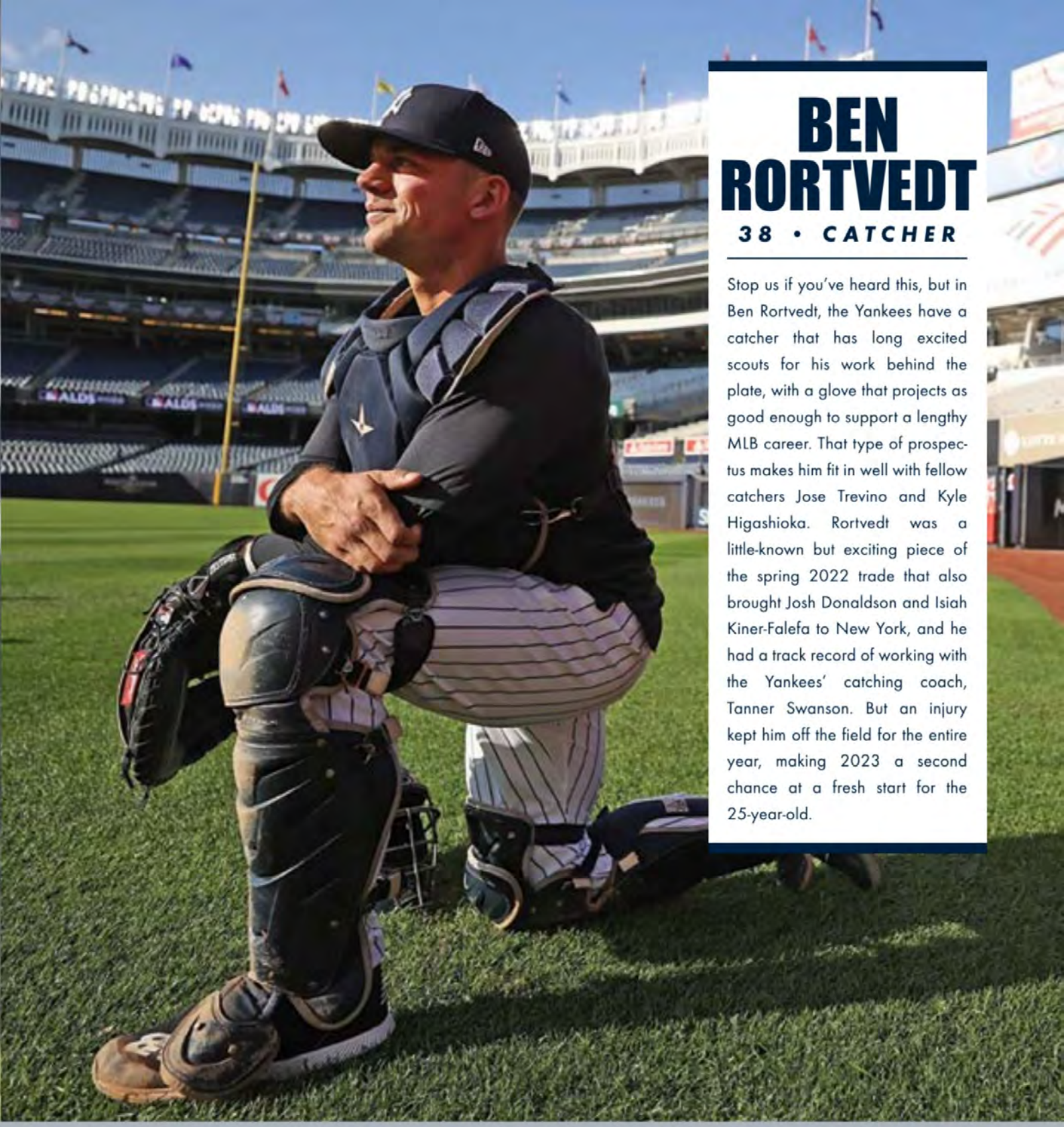
KYLE HIGASHIOKA

66 • CATCHER

From the time Kyle Higashioka made his big-league debut in 2017, plenty of Yankees pitchers have come and gone, but the veteran backstop has remained a trusted asset to every one of those hurlers. "Higgy" caught 82 games for the 2022 Yankees, furthering his reputation as one of the best game managers in the sport. At the plate, the California native batted 46 points higher than he did in 2021, while posting career highs in hits, runs and RBI. This season, Higashioka will look to reach double-digit home runs for a third straight year.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/20/90 • HOMETOWN: HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA • SCHOOL: EDISON HS (HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	83	229	27	52	7	0	10	31	0	12	52	.227	.264	.389
CAREER	222	616	70	123	25	0	30	87	0	37	170	.200	.245	.386



BEN RORTVEDT

38 • CATCHER

Stop us if you've heard this, but in Ben Rortvedt, the Yankees have a catcher that has long excited scouts for his work behind the plate, with a glove that projects as good enough to support a lengthy MLB career. That type of prospectus makes him fit in well with fellow catchers Jose Trevino and Kyle Higashioka. Rortvedt was a little-known but exciting piece of the spring 2022 trade that also brought Josh Donaldson and Isiah Kiner-Falefa to New York, and he had a track record of working with the Yankees' catching coach, Tanner Swanson. But an injury kept him off the field for the entire year, making 2023 a second chance at a fresh start for the 25-year-old.

BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 9/25/97 • HOMETOWN: MADISON, WI • SCHOOL: VERONA AREA HS (VERONA, WI)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2022													
CAREER	39	89	8	15	1	0	3	7	0	6	29	.169	.229	.281

JOSE TREVINO

39 • CATCHER

The story of Jose Trevino's 2022 journey reads more like a Hollywood script than a baseball statline. The lifelong Yankees fan from Texas was traded to New York just before Opening Day after spending the first eight years of his professional career with the Rangers. Trevino surprised many by displaying an elite bat – on par with his long-regarded catching skills – from his first days in pinstripes. The 2022 American League All-Star selection batted .248 with 11 home runs, while taking home an AL Gold Glove Award and the Junior Circuit's coveted Platinum Award for his stellar work behind the dish.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/28/92 • HOMETOWN: CORPUS CHRISTI, TX • SCHOOL: ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY (TULSA, OK)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	115	335	39	83	12	1	11	43	2	15	62	.248	.283	.388
CAREER	271	824	90	203	43	1	20	98	3	33	162	.246	.275	.374

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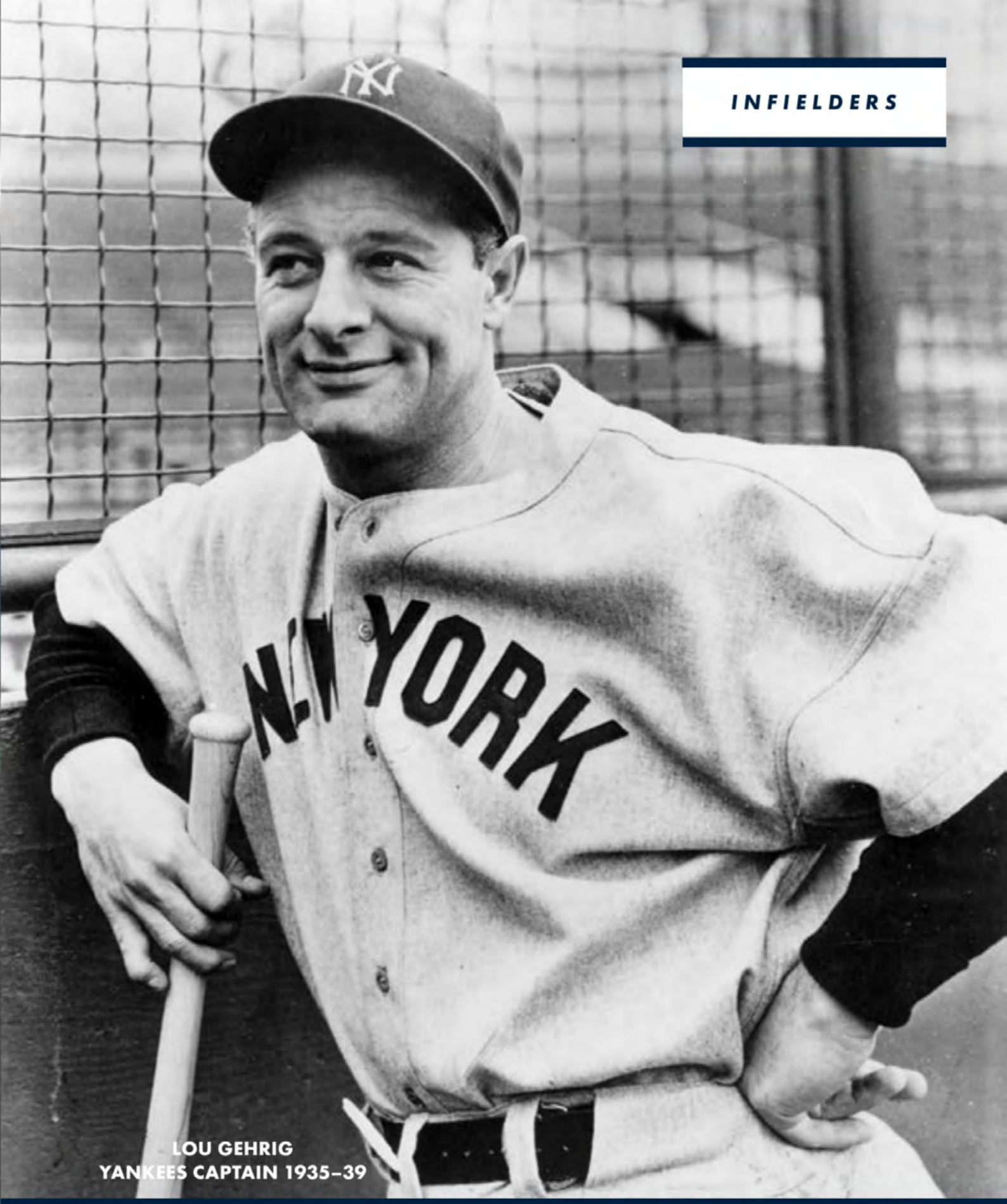


LOU GEHRIG
YANKEES CAPTAIN 1935–39

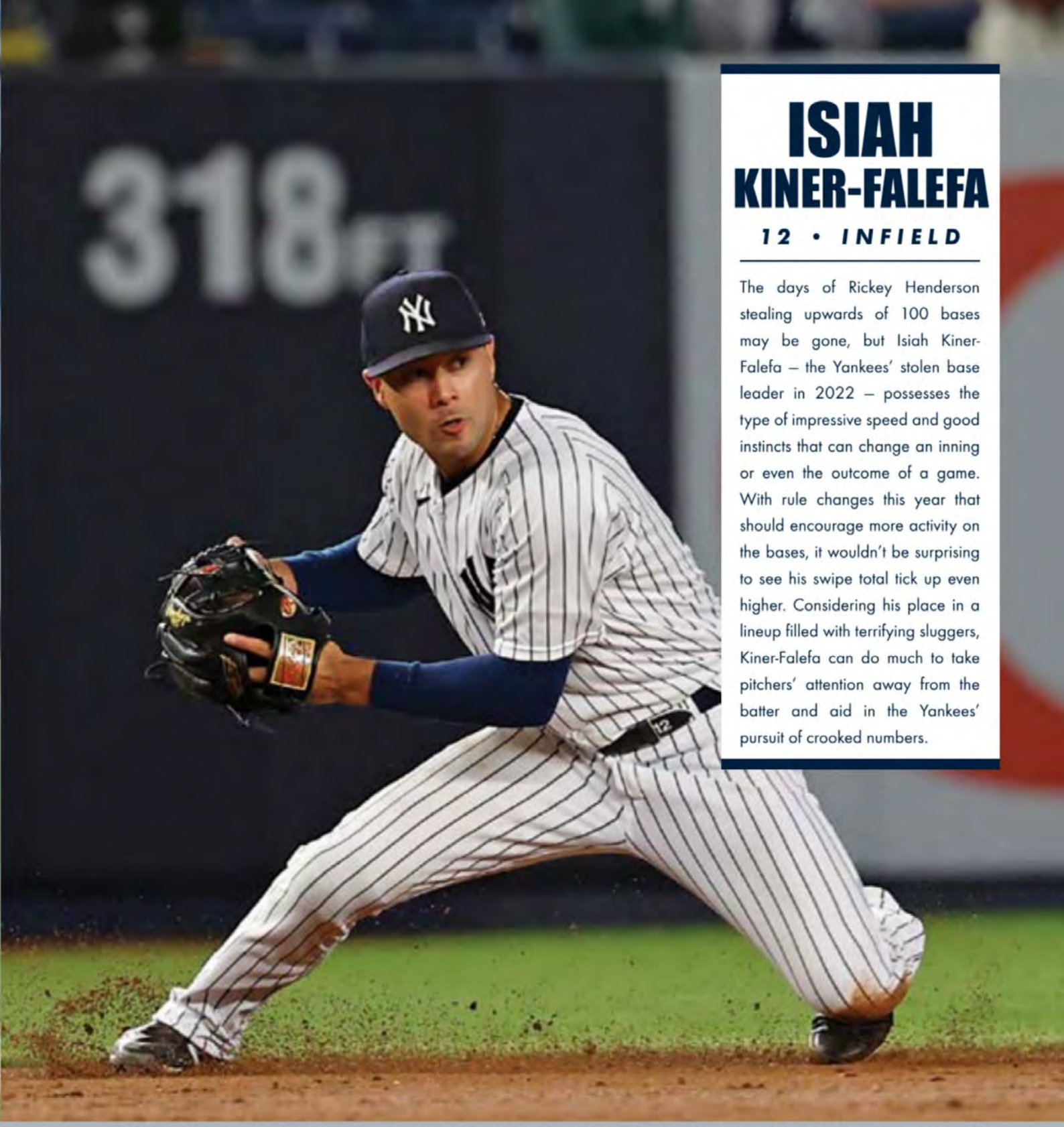
JOSH DONALDSON

28 • *INFIELD*

Like so many of the big-name acquisitions that came to the Bronx before him, Josh Donaldson authored a signature moment during his first season in pinstripes. The three-time All-Star, who was acquired in a March 2022 trade with the Minnesota Twins, brought the Yankees all the way back from a three-run, 10th-inning deficit against Tampa Bay with a grand slam on Aug. 17. Additionally, the 2015 American League MVP consistently provided exceptional play at the hot corner. Heading into 2023, the 37-year-old looks to make it to the World Series for the first time in his 13-year career.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 12/8/85 • HOMETOWN: PENSACOLA, FL • SCHOOL: AUBURN UNIVERSITY (AUBURN, AL)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	132	478	59	106	28	0	15	62	2	54	148	.222	.308	.374
CAREER	1,333	4,857	798	1,285	282	12	266	790	40	703	1,171	.265	.361	.492



ISIAH KINER-FALEFA

12 • INFIELD

The days of Rickey Henderson stealing upwards of 100 bases may be gone, but Isiah Kiner-Falefa – the Yankees' stolen base leader in 2022 – possesses the type of impressive speed and good instincts that can change an inning or even the outcome of a game. With rule changes this year that should encourage more activity on the bases, it wouldn't be surprising to see his swipe total tick up even higher. Considering his place in a lineup filled with terrifying sluggers, Kiner-Falefa can do much to take pitchers' attention away from the batter and aid in the Yankees' pursuit of crooked numbers.

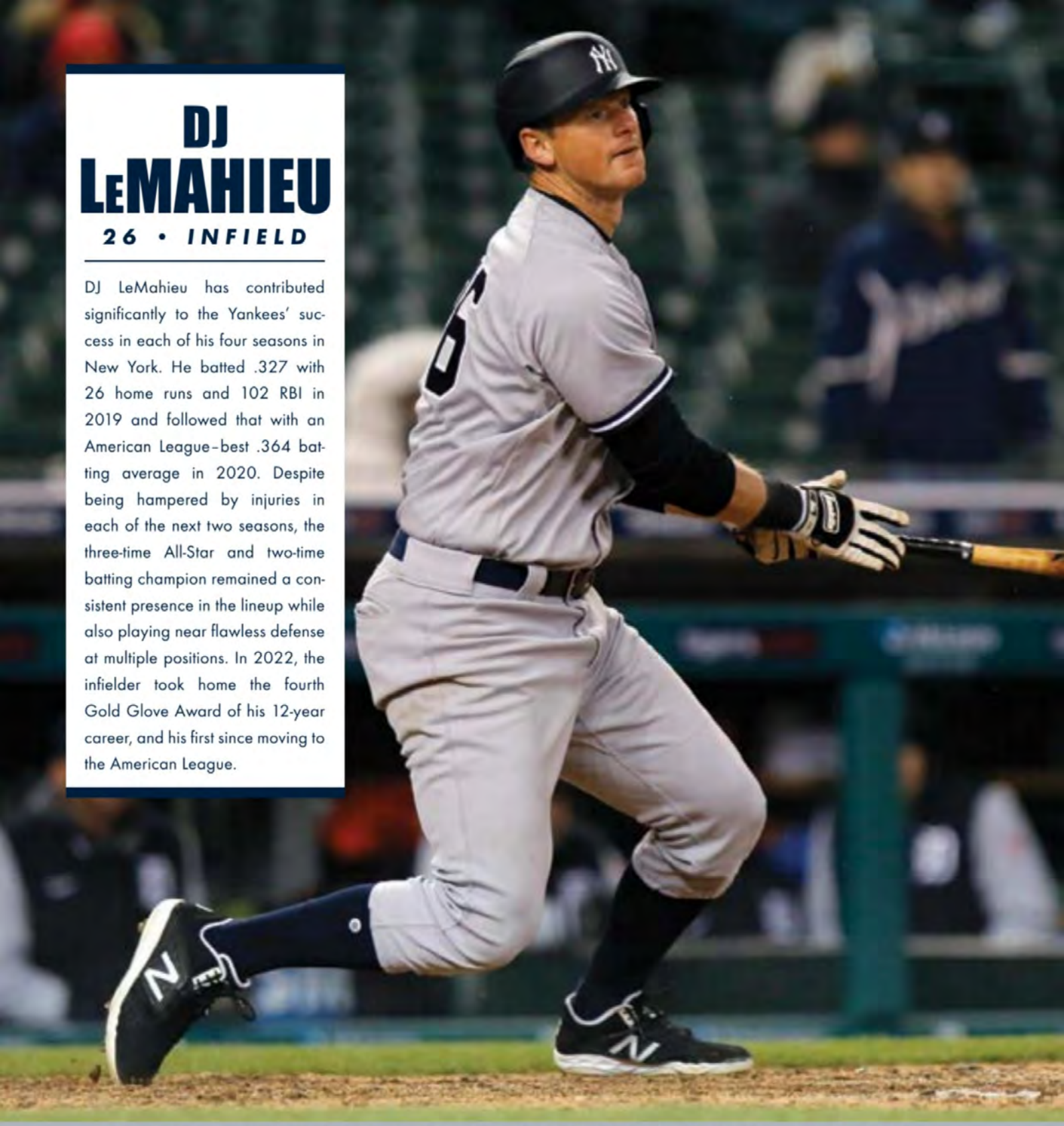
BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 3/23/95 • HOMETOWN: HONOLULU, HI • SCHOOL: MID-PACIFIC INSTITUTE (HONOLULU, HI)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	142	483	66	126	20	0	4	48	22	35	72	.261	.314	.327
CAREER	534	1,887	234	498	79	9	20	166	60	119	305	.264	.316	.347

DJ LeMAHIEU

26 • INFIELD

DJ LeMahieu has contributed significantly to the Yankees' success in each of his four seasons in New York. He batted .327 with 26 home runs and 102 RBI in 2019 and followed that with an American League-best .364 batting average in 2020. Despite being hampered by injuries in each of the next two seasons, the three-time All-Star and two-time batting champion remained a consistent presence in the lineup while also playing near flawless defense at multiple positions. In 2022, the infielder took home the fourth Gold Glove Award of his 12-year career, and his first since moving to the American League.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 7/13/88 • HOMETOWN: BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI • SCHOOL: LSU (BATON ROUGE, LA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	125	467	74	122	18	0	12	46	4	67	71	.261	.357	.377
CAREER	1,425	5,306	809	1,576	248	36	107	581	91	482	853	.297	.356	.418

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OSWALD PERAZA

91 • INFIELD

When Oswald Peraza made his big-league debut at Tampa Bay on Sept. 2, 2022, it was literally the beginning of a new era: The 22-year-old pinch-hitter became the first Yankees player to have been born in the 2000s. Four games into his major league career, Peraza took the field at Yankee Stadium for the first time, and with three hits and just as many impressive plays at shortstop, he made quite a first impression on the home crowd. Peraza remained hot through the end of the season, batting .306 with one home run in 18 games. Before his call-up, the Yankees' third-ranked prospect (according to MLB.com) smashed 19 home runs and plated 50 runs in 99 games with Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

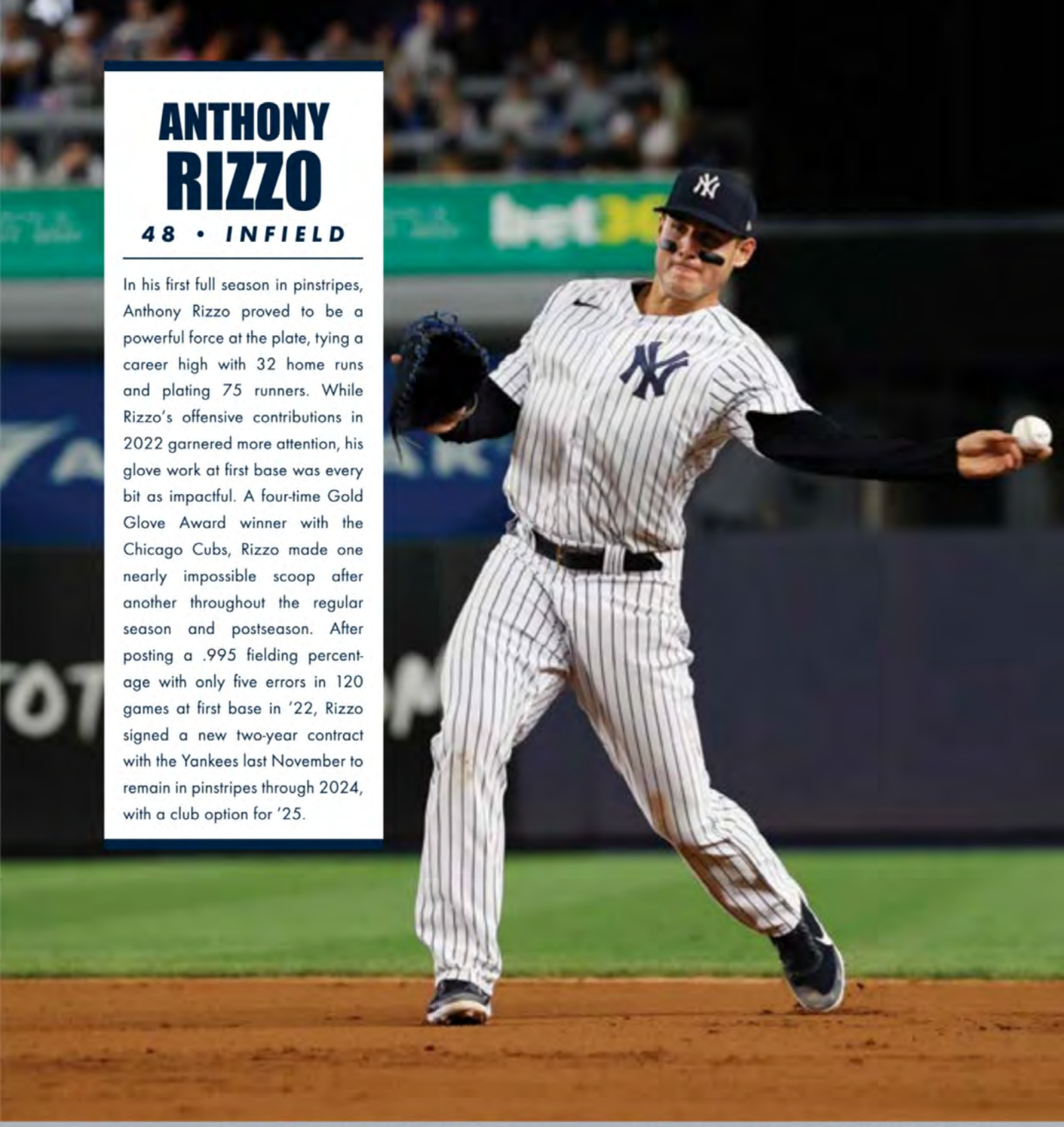
BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 6/15/00 • BIRTHPLACE: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	18	49	8	15	3	0	1	2	2	6	9	.306	.404	.429
CAREER	18	49	8	15	3	0	1	2	2	6	9	.306	.404	.429

ANTHONY RIZZO

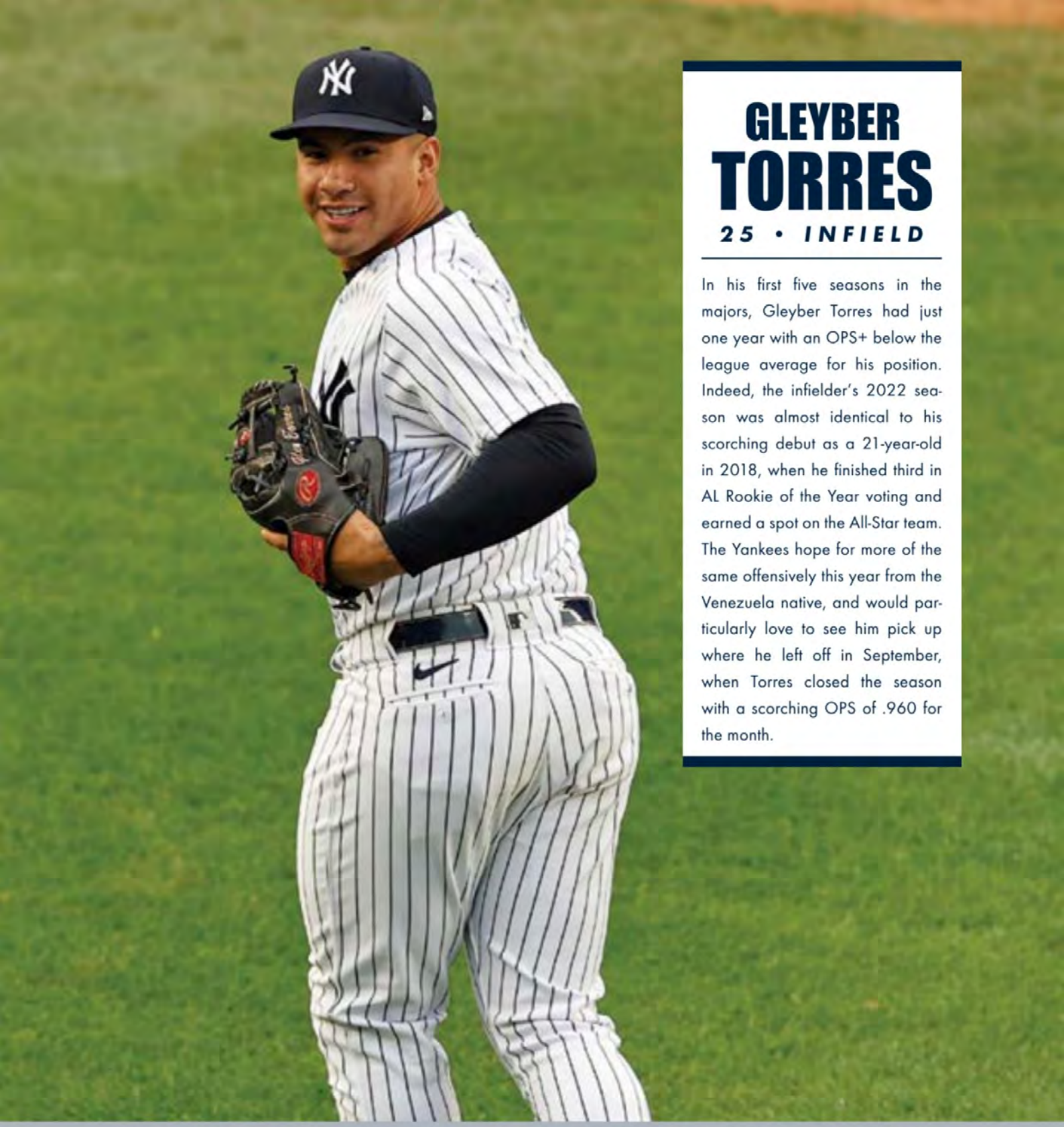
48 • INFIELD

In his first full season in pinstripes, Anthony Rizzo proved to be a powerful force at the plate, tying a career high with 32 home runs and plating 75 runners. While Rizzo's offensive contributions in 2022 garnered more attention, his glove work at first base was every bit as impactful. A four-time Gold Glove Award winner with the Chicago Cubs, Rizzo made one nearly impossible scoop after another throughout the regular season and postseason. After posting a .995 fielding percentage with only five errors in 120 games at first base in '22, Rizzo signed a new two-year contract with the Yankees last November to remain in pinstripes through 2024, with a club option for '25.



BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 8/8/89 • HOMETOWN: PARKLAND, FL • SCHOOL: MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS HS (PARKLAND, FL)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	130	465	77	104	21	1	32	75	6	58	101	.224	.338	.480
CAREER	1,536	5,578	839	1,476	312	22	283	889	72	719	1,046	.265	.366	.481



GLEYBER TORRES

25 • INFIELD

In his first five seasons in the majors, Gleyber Torres had just one year with an OPS+ below the league average for his position. Indeed, the infielder's 2022 season was almost identical to his scorching debut as a 21-year-old in 2018, when he finished third in AL Rookie of the Year voting and earned a spot on the All-Star team. The Yankees hope for more of the same offensively this year from the Venezuela native, and would particularly love to see him pick up where he left off in September, when Torres closed the season with a scorching OPS of .960 for the month.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 12/13/96 • BIRTHPLACE: CARACAS, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: CARACAS, VENEZUELA

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	140	526	73	135	28	1	24	76	10	39	129	.257	.310	.451
CAREER	576	2,098	290	556	100	2	98	310	36	201	512	.265	.331	.455

ANTHONY VOLPE

77 • INFIELD

In 2022, Anthony Volpe starred in the minors. In 2023, he could get his first chance to prove himself in the bigs. After leading all Yankees minor leaguers with 50 stolen bases and finishing second in both home runs (21) and RBI (65, tied with Austin Wells) in '22, the 2019 first-round draft pick earned an invite to spring training, where he impressed coaches and teammates with his poise as well as his play. Named the Yankees' top prospect and the No. 5 prospect in all of baseball by MLB Pipeline, the New Jersey native has a bright future ahead of him.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/28/01 • HOMETOWN: WATCHUNG, NJ • SCHOOL: DELBARTON SCHOOL (MORRISTOWN, NJ)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2022													
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES													

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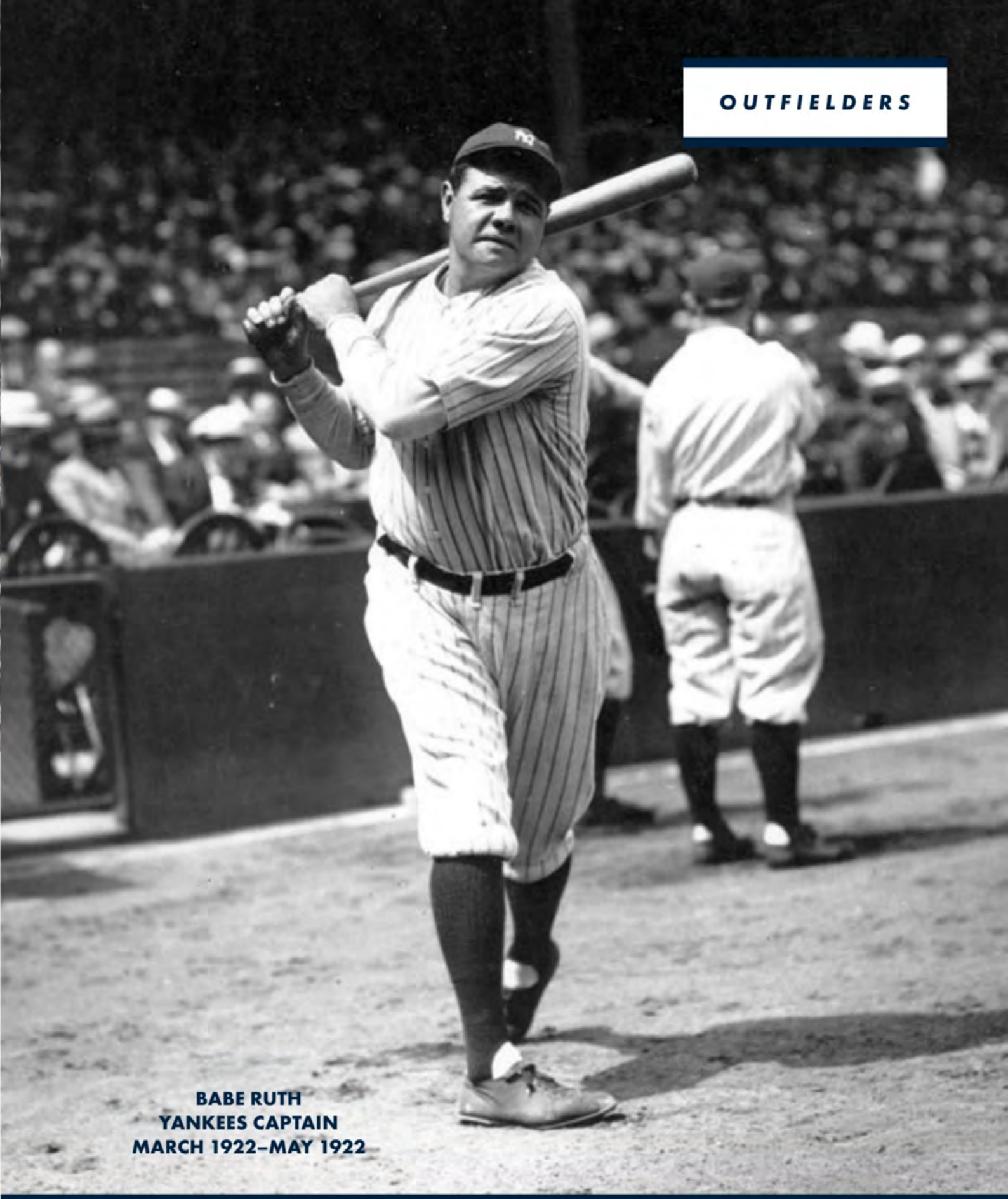


BABE RUTH
YANKEES CAPTAIN
MARCH 1922–MAY 1922

HARRISON BADER

22 • OUTFIELD

A midseason trade brought Harrison Bader home in 2022. After spending his first five and a half seasons with the St. Louis Cardinals, the Bronxville, New York, native – who played high school ball at Horace Mann School in the Bronx – put on the pinstripes and transformed into Babe Ruth during his first postseason with the Yankees. After recovering from a foot injury that limited him to 14 regular season games in New York, Bader crushed five home runs in just nine postseason games. A career .245 hitter with 52 home runs, the 2021 NL Gold Glove winner hopes to put his dazzling defense on display in Yankee Stadium's center field for all of 2023, while also providing a consistent and clutch presence at the plate.

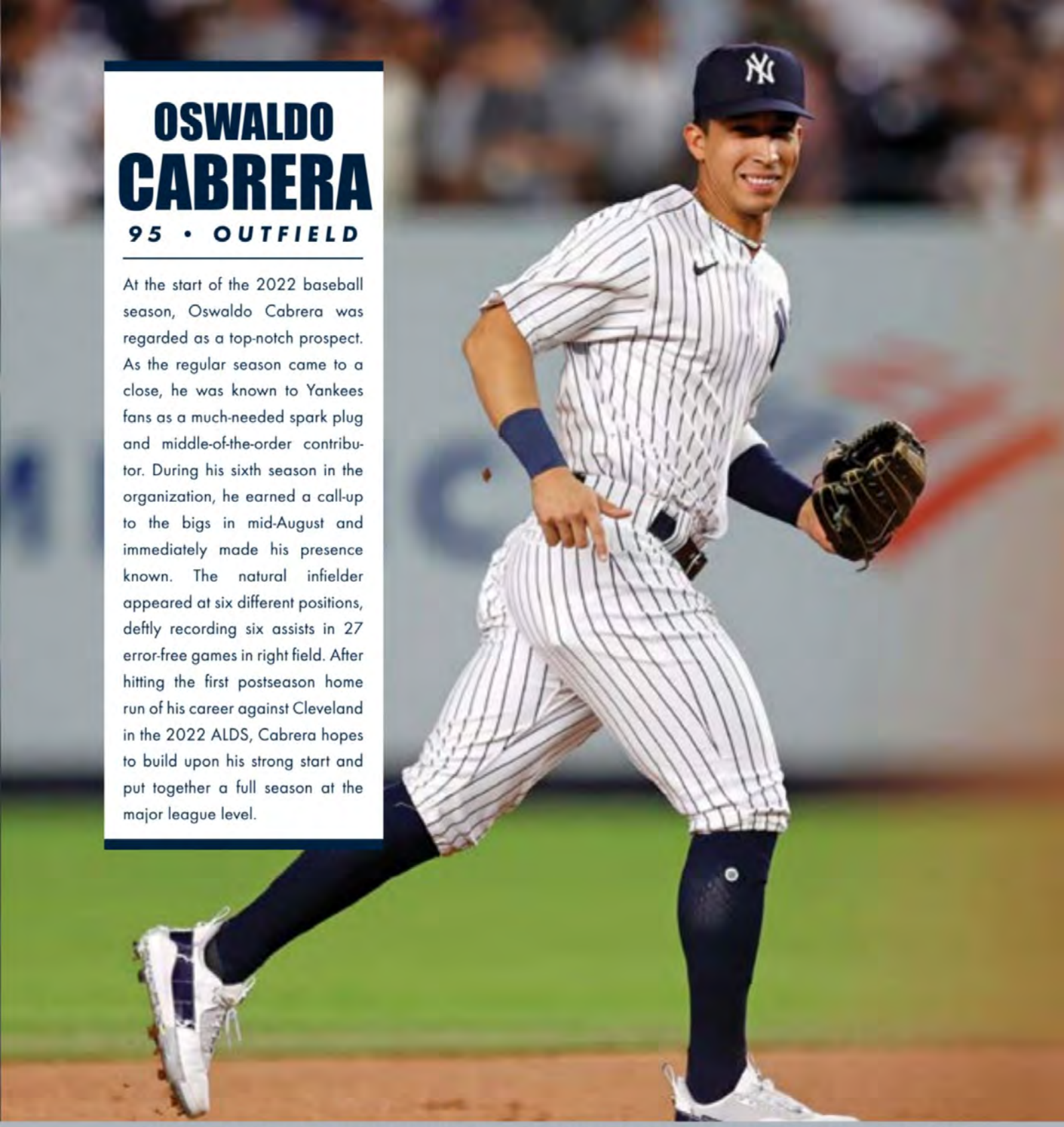
BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 6/3/94 • HOMETOWN: BRONXVILLE, NY • SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA (GAINESVILLE, FL)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	86	292	38	73	10	3	5	30	17	15	62	.250	.294	.356
CAREER	537	1,576	229	386	75	11	52	177	57	137	453	.245	.317	.405

OSWALDO CABRERA

95 • OUTFIELD

At the start of the 2022 baseball season, Oswaldo Cabrera was regarded as a top-notch prospect. As the regular season came to a close, he was known to Yankees fans as a much-needed spark plug and middle-of-the-order contributor. During his sixth season in the organization, he earned a call-up to the bigs in mid-August and immediately made his presence known. The natural infielder appeared at six different positions, deftly recording six assists in 27 error-free games in right field. After hitting the first postseason home run of his career against Cleveland in the 2022 ALDS, Cabrera hopes to build upon his strong start and put together a full season at the major league level.



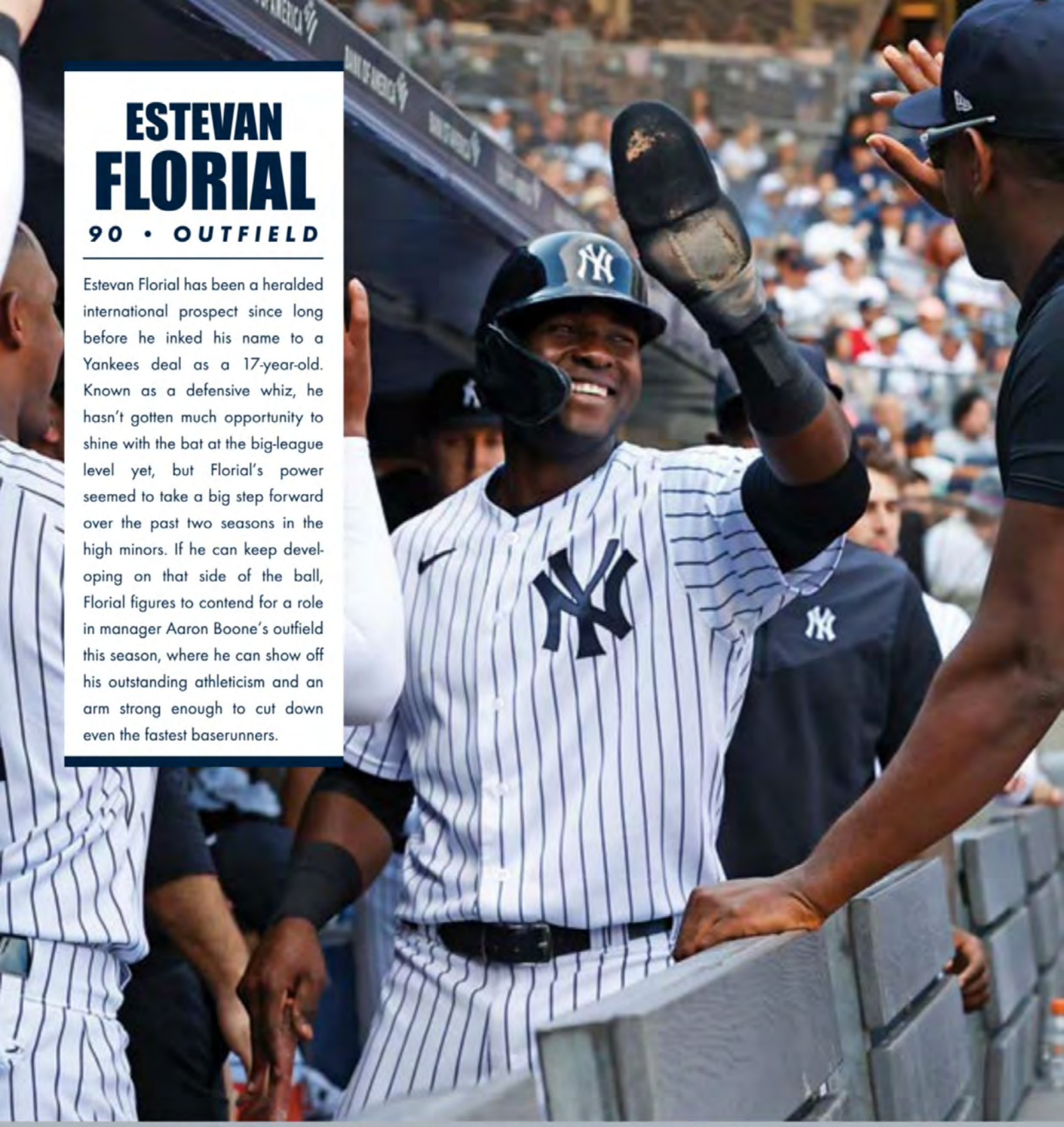
BATS: S • THROWS: R • DOB: 3/1/99 • BIRTHPLACE: GUARENAS, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: GUARENAS, VENEZUELA

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	44	154	21	38	8	1	6	19	3	15	44	.247	.312	.429
CAREER	44	154	21	38	8	1	6	19	3	15	44	.247	.312	.429

ESTEVAN FLORIAL

90 • OUTFIELD

Estevan Florial has been a heralded international prospect since long before he inked his name to a Yankees deal as a 17-year-old. Known as a defensive whiz, he hasn't gotten much opportunity to shine with the bat at the big-league level yet, but Florial's power seemed to take a big step forward over the past two seasons in the high minors. If he can keep developing on that side of the ball, Florial figures to contend for a role in manager Aaron Boone's outfield this season, where he can show off his outstanding athleticism and an arm strong enough to cut down even the fastest baserunners.



BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/25/97 • BIRTHPLACE: BARAHONA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SANTO DOMINGO ESTE, D.R.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	17	31	4	3	0	0	0	1	2	3	13	.097	.200	.097
CAREER	29	54	7	10	2	0	1	3	3	8	21	.185	.302	.278

AARON HICKS

31 • OUTFIELD

A switch-hitter with a great eye at the plate, Aaron Hicks saw his 2022 season end in particularly frustrating fashion, as he collided with teammate Oswaldo Cabrera while trying to make a play on a shallow fly ball in Game 5 of the ALDS. But the California native, who also excels on the golf course, has shown in his first seven years with the Yankees that he can be a game-changer when healthy. Hicks should benefit from new defensive shift limitations that hurt his output from the left-handed batter's box, and he still offers excellent defense and baserunning.

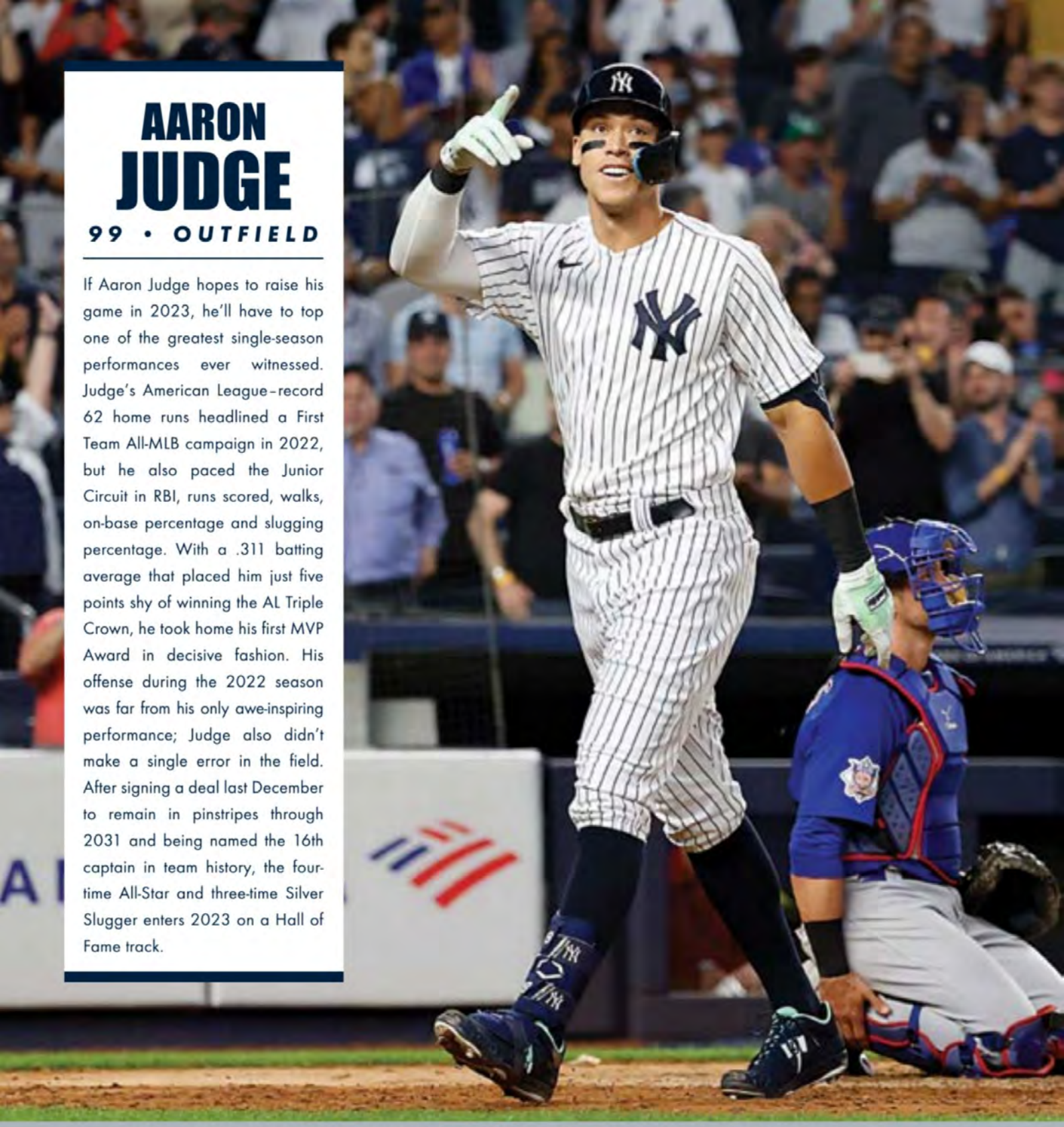
BATS: S • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/2/89 • HOMETOWN: SAN PEDRO, CA • SCHOOL: WOODROW WILSON HS (LONG BEACH, CA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	130	384	54	83	9	2	8	40	10	62	109	.216	.330	.313
CAREER	870	2,809	419	648	111	14	100	351	65	413	701	.231	.330	.387

AARON JUDGE

99 • OUTFIELD

If Aaron Judge hopes to raise his game in 2023, he'll have to top one of the greatest single-season performances ever witnessed. Judge's American League–record 62 home runs headlined a First Team All-MLB campaign in 2022, but he also paced the Junior Circuit in RBI, runs scored, walks, on-base percentage and slugging percentage. With a .311 batting average that placed him just five points shy of winning the AL Triple Crown, he took home his first MVP Award in decisive fashion. His offense during the 2022 season was far from his only awe-inspiring performance; Judge also didn't make a single error in the field. After signing a deal last December to remain in pinstripes through 2031 and being named the 16th captain in team history, the four-time All-Star and three-time Silver Slugger enters 2023 on a Hall of Fame track.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/26/92 • HOMETOWN: LINDEN, CA • SCHOOL: FRESNO STATE (FRESNO, CA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	157	570	133	177	28	0	62	131	16	111	175	.311	.425	.686
CAREER	729	2,638	535	748	121	4	220	497	40	472	908	.284	.394	.583

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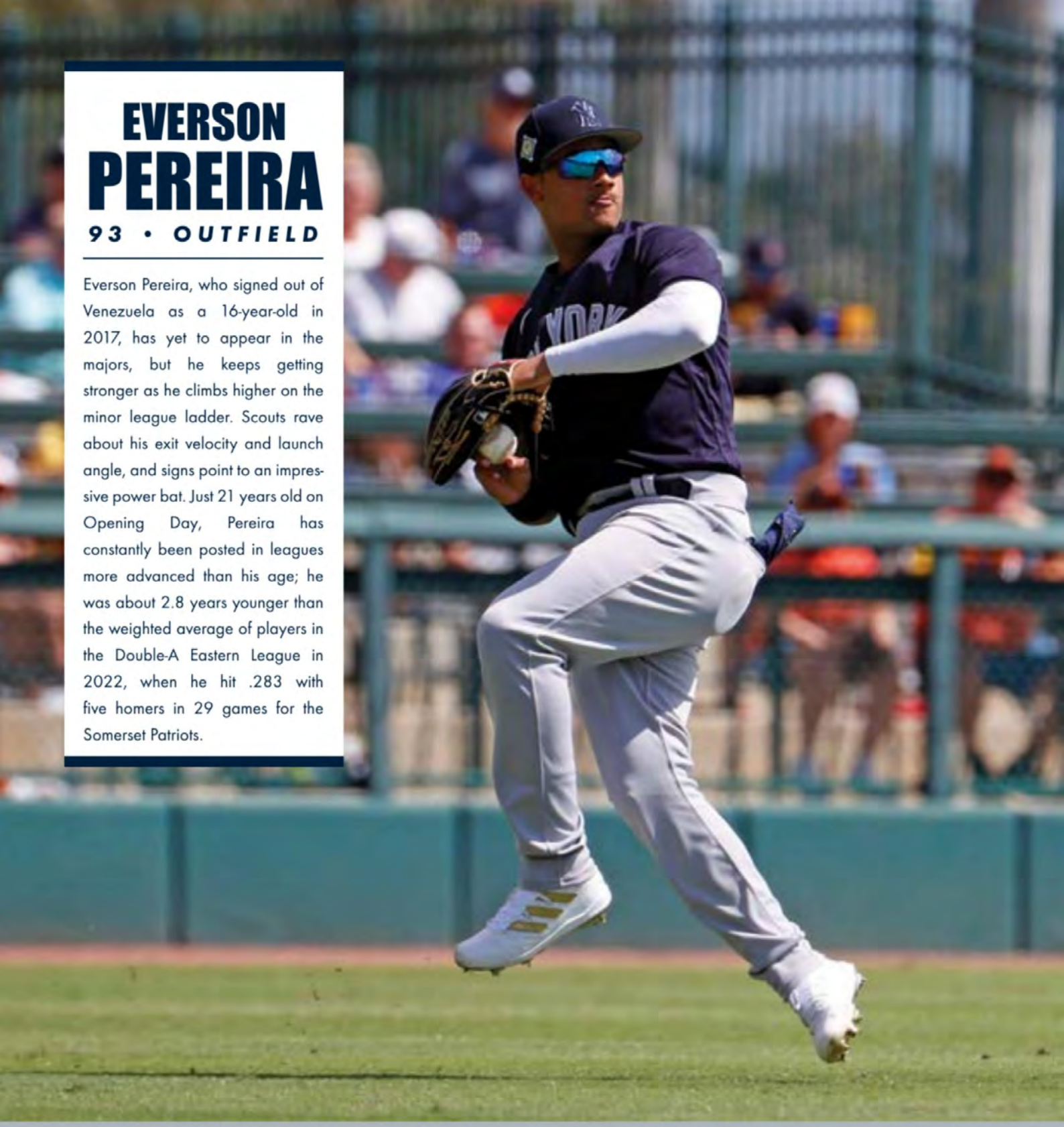
EVERSON PEREIRA

93 • OUTFIELD

Everson Pereira, who signed out of Venezuela as a 16-year-old in 2017, has yet to appear in the majors, but he keeps getting stronger as he climbs higher on the minor league ladder. Scouts rave about his exit velocity and launch angle, and signs point to an impressive power bat. Just 21 years old on Opening Day, Pereira has constantly been posted in leagues more advanced than his age; he was about 2.8 years younger than the weighted average of players in the Double-A Eastern League in 2022, when he hit .283 with five homers in 29 games for the Somerset Patriots.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/10/01 • BIRTHPLACE: CABUDARE, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2022													
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES													

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GIANCARLO STANTON

27 • OUTFIELD

Giancarlo Stanton has shown a flair for the dramatic throughout his athletic career, and certainly since joining the Yankees prior to the 2018 season. The 6-foot-6 slugger came up huge in the 2022 All-Star Game, smashing a game-tying home run into the left-field seats at Dodger Stadium – where as a young boy he attended games with his family and fell in love with the game of baseball – to earn game MVP honors. During regular-season play, Stanton has eclipsed the 30-home run plateau in each of the last two seasons, and he enters 2023 within striking distance of 400 career round-trippers, third among active players behind only Miguel Cabrera and Nelson Cruz.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/8/89 • HOMETOWN: SUNLAND-TUJUNGA, CA • SCHOOL: NOTRE DAME HS (SHERMAN OAKS, CA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2022	110	398	53	84	7	0	31	78	0	50	137	.211	.297	.462
CAREER	1,434	5,237	815	1,383	272	11	378	971	42	697	1,696	.264	.354	.537

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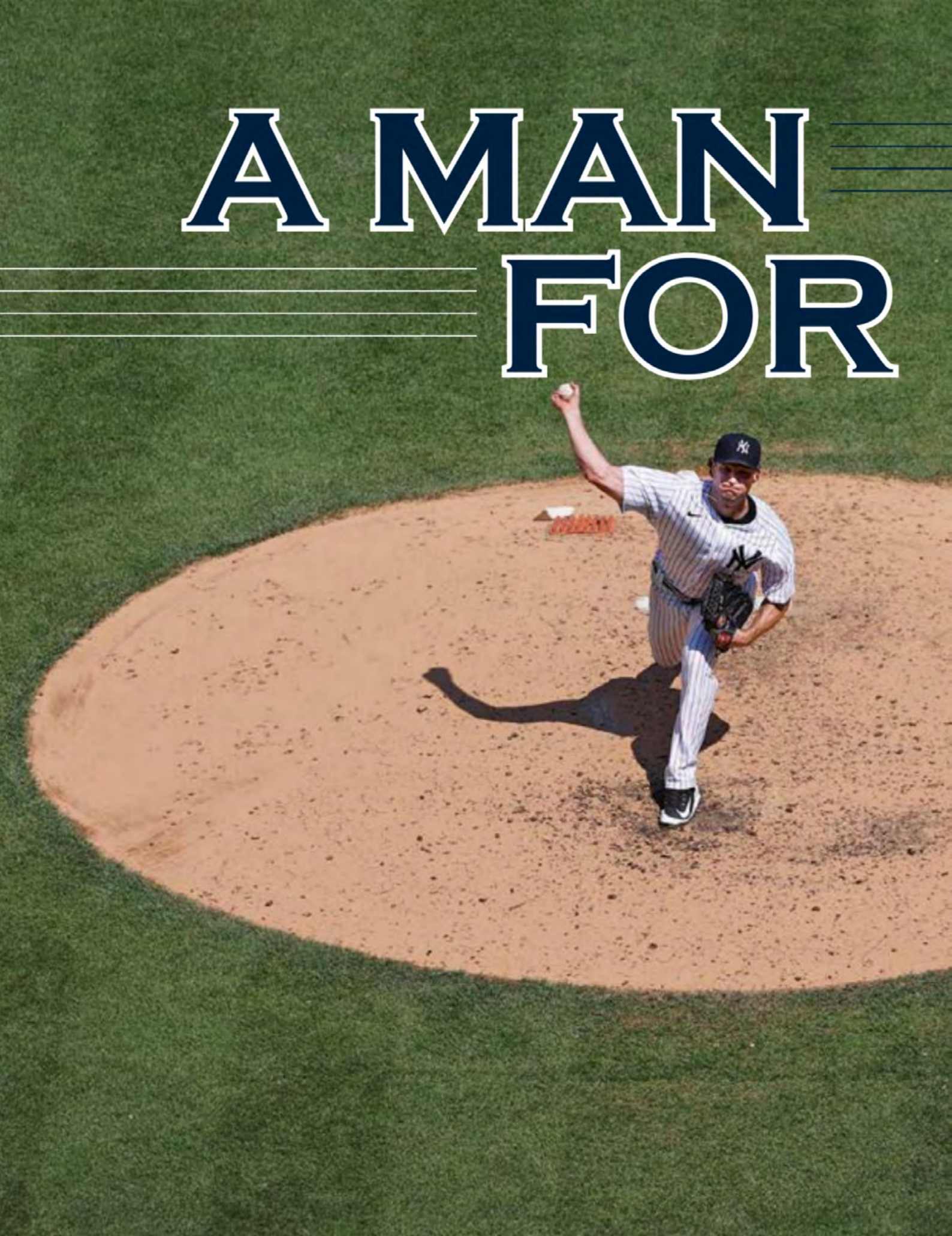

ALL TIME

IN SOME WAYS, GERRIT COLE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A YANKEE. HE KEEPS SOLIDIFYING THAT GENERATIONAL CONNECTION, ONE K AT A TIME

BY JON SCHWARTZ

There are times when Yankees history seems endless, and others when the generations meet and tangle in such a way that make the past six-score years feel compact as a midseason West Coast swing. Jack Chesbro, whom *Newsday*'s Steve Jacobson wrote in 1978 "was known as Happy Jack, because he was not," took the hill in Washington in the first inning on April 22, 1903, and threw the first pitch for the team then called the New York Highlanders. Yet after all these years, he's separated from Gerrit Cole by just two degrees on one specific historic ledger, with only Ron Guidry standing between them.

Cole, the Yankees' ace, and the man penciled in for an Opening Day start during his annual spring physical, is the epitome of a modern athlete, his brain containing endless lines of data and his body the force to throw triple-digit fastballs. Chesbro, meanwhile, pitched at a time when anything less than a complete game was grounds for a stern talking-to.

In that 1903 season, Chesbro pitched 324⅔ innings and faced 1,309 batters (a pittance compared to what he'd do the next year, when the totals reached 454⅔ and 1,720, respectively). Cole, a workhorse by modern standards, finished 2022 with 200⅔ innings and 793 batters faced. So, some things have changed.

And yet, there stood Happy Jack Chesbro and Gerrit Cole, linked by fate across the decades, the first Yankees ace and the most recent.

GERRIT COLE

Almost 28 and a half years after his climb to the American League Park pitcher's mound in Washington, Chesbro was working on another hill on his chicken farm in Massachusetts when he suffered a heart attack and died. He was 57 years old. A decade and a half later, baseball's Old-Timers Committee would elect him to the Hall of Fame, largely on the basis of his extraordinarily prolific 1904 season, when he won 41 games and established a Yankees benchmark with 239 punchouts. It held for 74 years, and the new mark — Guidry's 248 — for another 44 before Cole claimed the crown last year with 257.

Few things so similar could still be more different than the universes in which Jack Chesbro, Ron Guidry and Gerrit Cole recorded their record-setting strikeouts. Unlike Guidry in 1978, Cole at least had the opportunity to chat with the man he was elbowing off the perch. In so many other ways, though, Cole's output is a physical manifestation of the game today, his place in it and his status among the titans of the most successful franchise in baseball history.

"It's a little surreal," Cole says of the notable company he's keeping. "I spent a little bit of time reflecting on it at the end of the year. But it's also coupled with the desire to keep getting better."

Nolan Ryan. Jack Morris. Tom Seaver. All Hall of Famers. Guidry settles on these three when trying to find comps from his generation for the current Yankees ace.

"He's in the top echelon of your best pitchers in the game," Guidry says from the hallway outside the Yankees' clubhouse at George M. Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, Florida, where the 72-year-old once again served as a spring training instructor this year. "Right now, I don't think there's really anything that I could give him to make him any better than he is. And sometimes it's best just to let the sleeping dog lie."

The reality is that Cole is a technician, a guy who knows every detail in the baseball user's manual. The pitcher's 2022 season

For Cole [above, C], there is no downtime. The pitcher is constantly improving, both on and off the mound. A generous teammate, the ace is always willing to share knowledge and insight with his teammates, but on days he starts, he wears an impenetrable and intimidating mask that keeps distractions at bay.

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wasn't his best strikeout effort; that came with the Astros in 2019, when he ran his K counter all the way up to 326, striking out 13.8 batters per nine innings, compared to 11.5 in his Yankees-record-setting year. (Guidry, by way of comparison, registered an 8.2 figure in 1978; Chesbro's was just 4.7 in 1904.) And, of course, in a year that had so much attention on home runs, Cole's 33 homers allowed in 33 starts factors into any analysis.

Still, it's no surprise that for all the might and force behind a huge strikeout tally, Cole thinks of the feat in more mechanical terms. "It's the most efficient out," Cole says. "There's less probability for stuff to go wrong." Compare that to the comments on the night Louisiana Lightning broke Chesbro's record. "I don't believe in pacing myself," Guidry said in the postgame clubhouse. "I throw as hard as I can for as long as I can."

Cole's interesting that way. He's engaging and funny, and his locker is a popular gathering place in the clubhouse. His teammates recognize who he is and what he is, and they celebrate the fact that they don't have to face him. "He's got four or five or six pitches that are not only good, they're elite. They're some of the best in the game," Aaron Judge says. "He's going to come after hitters and show them what he's got. And you've got to love that from your ace."

But that attacking nature can make Cole a difficult hang at times. Unlike the always-loose Nestor Cortes, who bounces around the clubhouse on days he starts, Cole shows up every fifth day looking like it's already the sixth inning. Forget the gregarious and charming teammate he is most of the week; everything about Cole's persona on a start day screams STAY AWAY. "I'm just trying to get to a place where I can respond to unpredictable things or less-than-ideal performance, or even good performance," the pitcher says of his game face, admitting that as the calendar flips closer to October, the intensity level rises ever earlier in the day, sometimes settling in even before he leaves the house.

His process is just different. He talks in ways more befitting a car designer at work streamlining his product's aerodynamics. Take his first start this spring, a solid three-inning effort in which he allowed one hit and struck out four Tigers. Afterward, asked to explain how his spring was going, Cole deferred to his level of comfort in the clubhouse at the start of his fourth Yankees camp, but his first truly normal one. "I'm not wasting any brainpower learning people's names," he said that night. "It just seems like things are more familiar. And I find myself being, I guess, more curious about the game and spending more brainpower on the game, as opposed to making sure I'm not showing up late or calling somebody by the wrong name.

"I want to do things right. I've got that kind of boxed up."

That approach might not work for every pitcher, but it sure suits Cole well.

Spring training stats are obviously a bit silly. Pitchers are always ahead of the hitters, especially at the outset, and the results truly don't matter for anyone outside the absolute margins of the roster. Still, it's worth looking at what Cole did his first two times out this March. In that first start against the Tigers, he allowed two base runners, the first on an error behind him, the second a well-struck double.

Both times, Cole struck the next batter out.

Five days later, the base runner tally reached three. Once again, Cole responded each time with a punchout. The first five times runners reached against him in 2023, he struck the next guy out.

That's not an accident, and it's more than talent. Cole, like the truest of aces, just

knows how to get a strikeout when he needs one. A strikeout and a ground out have barely measurable differences in outcome, but the latter requires a good deal more synergy from a few more people and, thus, has more room for error. "It takes away a lot of the luck and the chance involved with balls being put in play," says pitching coach Matt Blake, explaining the virtue of the K. "I think especially with the way the game is shifting back, in terms of taking away the shifts, I think the more you can limit the ball being in play, the more it favors you."

Prefer to laugh off spring statistics? That's fine. "You saw it in the postseason last year," Judge points out. Rewind to the 2022 American League Division Series against Cleveland, when Cole pitched the opener, then took the mound again when the Yankees faced elimination down 2 games to 1. Combined, he struck out 16 batters in 13⅓ innings those two nights, as the Yankees won both games. But notably, nine of the punchouts came with runners on, and another two followed a solo home run. Whenever Cole got into any kind of trouble, he responded by getting the next hitter out as effectively as possible.

"My objective is to have a plan to try to induce a strikeout if I need it, but otherwise just get ahead as quickly as I can and then finish guys off as quickly as I can, whether that be with contact or a strikeout," Cole explains. "But there are a couple leverage points of the game where it's sometimes needed. So, you do pitch to it, in that sense."

You pitch to it by leaning on preparation, to be sure, and Cole also has physiological gifts that far outstrip most of his competition. He's more than just a pitcher who knows how to throw an unhittable pitch; he also knows why it moves in such mysterious ways. And he knows when to deploy it and why. "He puts himself in spots where he can add another gear when he needs it," Blake says. "If he gets to two strikes or he gets in a jam, he's still got something in the tank to add a little bit of velo, add a little bit of shape to the breaking ball. He kind of just knows how to add and subtract when he needs to in the big spots."

Then there's the fact that, the day before a start, he has already visualized himself in nearly every situation he might face; once the lineup comes out on game day, he can work with his catcher to try to put a puzzle together. He's so focused, so intent on cutting out distractions and things that are out of his control, that it's actually believable

The Yankees have a legacy of greatness that has been passed down from one generation to another. Chesbro [C] was the first pitcher in Yankees history, and he established the strikeout record that Guidry [R] claimed in 1978. Cole, who grew up a Yankees fan, relishes any opportunity to talk shop with the pitcher whose mark he surpassed.

when Cole says that he didn't know he was chasing the record until his second-to-last start of the season, the night in Toronto when he tied Guidry's mark.

You, however, might remember that night for another reason. Two innings after Cole's record-tying K, Judge tied Roger Maris with his 61st home run.

Every chat with Guidry, at one point or another, sprays off somewhere beyond the direction you expected. The Bayou native's conversation style practically demands tangents, often hilarious, such that you both spend as much time laughing as actually talking. So, it's not surprising that while listing Cole's assets, Gator sets off down a path of his own imagining.

"He always comments about sliders," Guidry says, his tone suggesting that it would be a strange thing for one pitcher to ask another. "I haven't asked him yet, but I'm going to ask him one day, 'Why do you keep talking about sliders?' I mean, he has a good one. I'm going like, 'Do you think it's not good enough? Do we need to talk about slot?' I'm going to find out one day why he keeps harping about the sliders."

"Well, he's got a great slider!" Cole says the next night, laughing after his spring start against Detroit. "I'll ask him about another pitch next time!"

As Cole mentioned, this was really his first ordinary spring training. In 2020 — even before the world shut down — he was adjusting to a totally new environment, having just signed with the Yankees the previous December. The next year, everyone was socially distanced and encouraged to spend as little time together as possible. And 2022 was abbreviated and run at a million miles per hour due to the lockout that didn't end until March 10. One of the casualties from all that was that he hadn't gotten as many chances as he probably should have by now to get to know Gator.

It was hard for anything to compete with the attention that Judge's home run chase deservedly received in 2022. But as Cole chased his own history, it kept overlapping with the slugger's feats. Cole and Judge both tied the records on the same night in Toronto [above], then both broke them on the same night in Texas.

But don't think for a second that Cole — who's seen quite a bit — takes time with Guidry for granted. The Yanks' ace holds predecessors such as Whitey Ford and Guidry in the highest regard.

"There's something to be said about guys that have had the type of success they had in the '60s and '70s," Cole says. "As a kid my age, growing up and hearing about those kinds of guys, it's a little more legendary, a little more mysterious. You see some of these films of the Bronx going crazy for Guidry's 18 strikeouts, you know? There's a little mystique around it.

"Plus, I'm a Yankees fan."

So that Yankees fan, the one with the sign from the 2001 World Series, chased down a Yankees legend last year, the accomplishment overshadowed in part due to Judge's home run pursuit sucking up so much of the sports landscape's oxygen, to say nothing of the sports pages' column inches. Cole entered his last start of the regular season against Texas tied with Guidry at 248. His first K of the night would establish a new record. But before he even took the mound, Judge hit No. 62. "After the second time it happened," Judge says, "where we both broke it together on the same day, I was like, 'Man, we're just team players. We just want to do things together.'"

Cole's teammates made sure to celebrate the pitcher's accomplishment that night. And Guidry even called into the clubhouse, gleefully passing the torch to Cole and admonishing the new record-holder for being overly deferential and formal.

"My name is not sir, it's Gator," Guidry said over the speakerphone.

The bond is tighter than a once-shared record. Cole wants to win, and more than that, he wants to lead. In Guidry, he sees the rare pitcher to have been named a captain, quite a feat for someone who plays only every fourth or fifth day. He looks toward the aging former ace and sees a man who understands how to prepare to be a champion.

"You see him, and then you're like, 'I want to be that good. I've got to practice,'" Cole says.

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On the night he passed Chesbro, Guidry said, "It's just another record. Somebody else will probably break it again in 60 or 70 years." Actually, it took just 44. But Guidry insists that he knew he was just holding the seat from the moment Cole shook Hal Steinbrenner's hand in December 2019. "I had been waiting for four years," Guidry says now. "I had my speech all ready!"

Indeed, he felt lucky to be able to share the moment with the new record-holder. If Cole's feat fell a bit under Judge's shadow, well, Guidry did his at a time when all the major New York City newspapers were on strike. There's barely any coverage of his record-setting achievement. But beyond that, Chesbro was long dead. He was a name from a book somewhere, not a living embodiment of Yankees greatness, in the way that Guidry is for Cole.

Cole is signed through 2028, and you can be sure that he would happily trade all the strikeouts, all the records, all the acclaim for a couple of rings. He's a Yankees fan, remember, and Yankees fans expect championships. But these aren't separate acts. Everything Cole does is calibrated to improve the Yankees' chances of spraying Champagne, from the way he trains to the way he studies to the way he cuts out every distraction imaginable. The ability to get a strikeout when you need one — or even just really want one — is what makes an elite pitcher, and Gerrit Cole is an elite pitcher. If chasing a strikeout increases the Yankees' win expectancy in any given situation, then that's what Cole will do. It's the unselfish pursuit of individual achievements, a quest no different from what Aaron Judge achieves with every home run trot.

So, Cole now holds the record for strikeouts by a Yankees pitcher in a season, and he certainly deserves it, but no one will forget Guidry in the same way that no one will forget Roger Maris. Achievements don't die with the records. Rather, it's the passing of the records, the ties that bind generational legends across history, that best describes what it means to thrive as a New York Yankee.

"You set them, but somebody's going to come along one day and break them," Guidry says. "You always hope that you're here so you can see it."

When Guidry established the new franchise single-season strikeout mark in 1978, he suggested someone would come along and break it in 60 or 70 years. But from the moment the Yankees inked Cole in December 2019, Gator knew his time atop the leaderboard would be short-lived. For Cole, who has a knack for getting strikeouts when he needs them most, it was surreal to see his name alongside one of the all-time Yankees greats.

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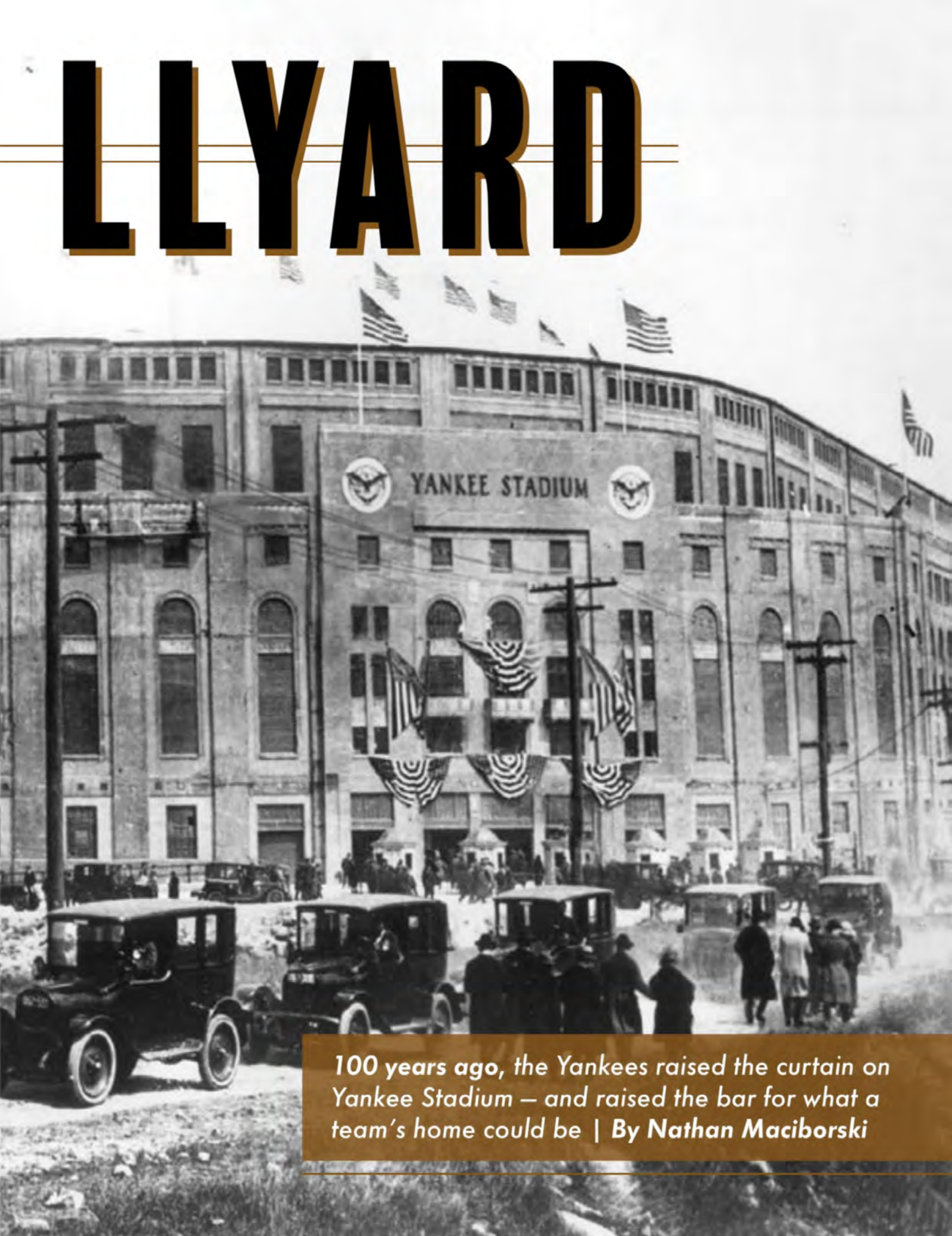

100 years ago, *the Yankees raised the curtain on Yankee Stadium — and raised the bar for what a team's home could be* | ***By Nathan Maciborski***

YANKEE STADIUM 1923

Yankee Stadium was only about a half hour old when the first legendary moment occurred there.

On April 18, 1923, after spending the previous 10 years across the Harlem River as tenants of the New York Giants at the Polo Grounds, a period that, itself, followed 10 years in a wooden ballpark on one of Manhattan's highest points, the Yankees opened the doors to their new home in the Bronx. It was unlike anything baseball had ever seen — a triple-tiered monolith made of Edison concrete and Johns-Manville asbestos roofing that would stand for 50 years, undergo a two-year renovation in the mid-1970s, then provide 33 more years of memories before closing and facing the proverbial wrecking ball in 2008.

The first game was on a Wednesday afternoon, with Yankees catcher Wally Schang receiving Bob Shawkey's first pitch at 3:30 p.m. And by the time the bottom of the third started, the minimum 15 batters had come to the plate. Boston's George Burns, who looped a one-out single to left-center in the top of the second, had been the only base runner to that point, and he was promptly caught stealing.

In those days, of course, batters didn't step out of the box between pitches, umpires didn't replace the baseballs whenever they touched the ground, and pitchers barely took a breath before going into their next windup. Games moved fast. Shawkey's strikeout of Burns to end the 4-1 Yankees victory would occur shortly after 5:30 p.m., and a banker catching the Jerome Avenue elevated back to Manhattan could be sitting in his apartment by 5:50.

So, it was perhaps a few moments before 4 p.m. when Ruth stepped into the box for his second plate appearance at Yankee Stadium. As a 19-year-old pitcher for the 1914 Red Sox, Ruth tossed his first complete game against the Yankees at 3-year-old Fenway Park. Now, here he was nine years later, a 28-year-old superstar slugger beginning his 10th season in the majors, his fourth

After being booted from the Polo Grounds (seen at top R of frame), the Yankees moved across the Harlem River and into the grandest sports venue the country had ever seen. "The Yankee Stadium" had enough seating to accommodate the team's fan base, which was growing due to the exploits of superstar slugger Babe Ruth, leading one sportswriter to label the building, "The House That Ruth Built."

Evan Trost has
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Evan Trost, M.D.
Family Physician, Private Practice Family Medicine

Dr. Evan Trost is a dedicated and committed young M.D. specializing in wellness and preventative medicine at his private practice in Scottsdale, Arizona. Patients – especially kids – spark to Evan's openness and compassionate bedside manner. Evan also happens to be one of the hundreds of thousands of Americans to have been born with Tourette Syndrome – an often misdiagnosed and misunderstood neurological disorder that's a lot more common than you think. You may know or have seen someone with TS symptoms – they sometimes make sudden, often strange, physical movements or vocal sounds that they just can't help. People with TS are not psychologically impaired, less intelligent, obstinate or purposefully disruptive. And contrary to what you may have heard, fully 85 to 90 percent are *not* prone to using inappropriate language. Research continues to explore the causes of Tourette Syndrome, and hopefully, the day will come soon when we can find better treatments and the cure. But until then, if you come across someone who has TS, please remember that, like Dr. Evan Trost, that person has a whole lot more.

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since being sold to New York by Boston owner Harry Frazee in December 1919.

Since ditching the mound and becoming a full-time hitter, Ruth had revolutionized the game, hitting twice the number of home runs in one season than anyone had thought possible. More than that, he was an all-around phenomenal baseball player. In his second season as a Yankee, 1921, he scored 177 runs — still a team record.

By 1923, he was rich, famous and regarded as perhaps the best player in baseball. But he wasn't quite .... a *legend*.

Not yet.

After that 1921 season, he took a step backward. He was suspended by Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis for the first six weeks of 1922 for participating in an offseason barnstorming tour — something the league would beg him to do a decade later. The Yankees had named him captain during spring training of '22, but in his sixth game back after serving the suspension, he got into an altercation with an umpire, got tossed from the game, heard it from a heckler at the Polo Grounds on his way back to the dugout, and decided to jump into the stands and chase said heckler, presumably while uttering some particularly unkind words.

The captaincy was revoked.

The Babe finished with a "disappointing" .315 batting average in 1922 and further diminished his standing with fans during the World Series, when he went 2-for-17 with one RBI in a second straight loss to the Yankees' Polo Grounds landlords, the Giants.

Rather than wallow in that defeat, Ruth vowed to change his ways.

New York City of the Roaring Twenties had much to offer a young, wealthy star such as Ruth, but he retreated to his rural Massachusetts homestead that winter, working his body into shape by chopping wood and drinking nothing stronger than ice water.

His debut at-bat in what sportswriter Fred Lieb coined "The House That Ruth Built" yielded a shallow fly to right field that Boston's Shano Collins hauled in easily for the final out of a 1-2-3 first. But a short time later, Ruth dug his spikes into the left-handed batter's box once more against Red Sox right-hander Howard Ehmke. And this time, the Yanks had a rally going.

Second baseman Aaron Ward led off the third with a single, and shortstop Everett Scott — seven years into the nine-year consecutive-games-played streak that would set the bar for Lou Gehrig — bunted him over to second.

The next two batters, Shawkey and leadoff man Whitey Witt, reached on a fielder's choice and a walk, then Yankees third baseman Joe Dugan plated the Stadium's first run with a two-out single, leaving runners at the corners for the No. 3 hitter, Ruth.

He fouled off the first pitch, then took ball 1.

He fouled off a second pitch, then took ball 2.

Earlier in the day, Ruth had marveled at Yankee Stadium upon seeing it packed with fans for the first time. "Some ballyard," he proclaimed, telling teammates, "I'd give a year off my life to hit one today." Now, the once "incorrigible" dirty-faced kid from Baltimore who skipped school, chewed tobacco and snuck leftover drinks at his abusive father's Inner Harbor tavern had an opportunity to do something ... *monumental*.

And wouldn't you know it? The son of a gun did it.

Ehmke tried to fool Ruth with a slow pitch on 2-2, but the Bambino blasted it into the right-field stands. The 198th of Ruth's 714 career home runs marked the first Yankee Stadium *moment*, and the hero of the day soaked up the greatest ovation he had heard to that point, smiling broadly as he touched home plate and doffing his cap to the adoring masses.

"Governors, generals, colonels, politicians and baseball officials gathered together solemnly yesterday to dedicate the biggest stadium in baseball," began the next day's account in *The New York Times*, "but it was a ball player who did the real dedicating. In the third inning, with two team mates on the base lines, Babe Ruth smashed a savage home run into the right field bleachers, and that was the real baptism of the new Yankee Stadium."

Ruth had work to do in order to repair his image and his standing with the fans following a tumultuous 1922 season. He spent the offseason on his Sudbury, Massachusetts, farm chopping wood and refraining from alcohol in an effort to be in the best shape of his life for the opening of Yankee Stadium. It paid off, as he bookended his 1923 MVP season with home runs on Opening Day and in the World Series clincher.

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YANKEE STADIUM 1923

A century later, some 40,000 fans will come by car, by bus, by train and by foot to the corner of 161st Street and River Avenue to watch the 2023 New York Yankees take on the Los Angeles Angels. It's a pilgrimage that has been made millions of times over, ardent fans arriving at this Bronx intersection where Gehrig's speech and Jeter's dive took place. Right here, two blocks from the Grand Concourse and the Bronx County Courthouse, is where Joe D's streak began and where Mr. October was born. From Larsen's perfecto to Judge's debut, Yankees loyalists have witnessed history unfold.

Since the day it opened, Yankee Stadium has been much more than "some ballyard." It has been a place where magic happens.

For a while on April 18, 1923, the estimated 74,200 in attendance at Yankee Stadium were the only ones who knew what had occurred. The first televised baseball game was still more than 16 years away. Even radio was just dipping its toes into baseball's pool; the 1921 and '22 World Series between the Giants and Yankees were among the sport's first broadcasts. Word of mouth was the quickest medium of the day, and that was how the news spread like wildfire throughout the city. Over burgers at P.J. Clarke's on 55th and Third, businessmen who had been at The Stadium bragged to their bartenders about what they had witnessed: A Ruthian blast and a Yankees victory in a breathtaking new venue that the ancient Romans and Egyptians would admire.

The 4-1 win over Boston was just one of many firsts at Yankee Stadium in 1923.

On May 12, promoter Tex Rickard drew 63,000 boxing fans to the Bronx — the second-largest boxing crowd in history to that point — to see five heavyweight fights in the first night event at Yankee Stadium. (The first night baseball game in the Bronx wouldn't be played until May 28, 1946.) "From the lofty last row of the third tier, where people sit in the clouds and chat with low flying aviators, to the lower levels of the ringside

Yankee Stadium became the place to be in '23, with massive crowds converging at 161st Street and River Avenue regularly. It wasn't only Ruth they came to see. Players such as Aaron Ward [above, L], Herb Pennock and Bob Meusel contributed mightily to the team's winning ways, and while the team was on the road, the Stadium hosted everything from boxing matches to a championship rodeo. The Yankees clinched their third straight American League pennant on Sept. 20, setting up a third straight meeting with the Giants in the World Series.

sector," *The New York Times* wrote, "it was a solid mass of humanity."

On Sunday, May 20, while Ruth was driving in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning of a 3-2 win over the White Sox at Comiskey Park, more than 25,000 fans were inside Yankee Stadium to watch a marathon, in which Albert R. Michelson beat the 13-year-old record of 2 hours and 54 minutes by more than 6 minutes.

On June 15, a 19-year-old Gehrig, fresh off the campus of Columbia, made his big-league debut, replacing Wally Pipp at first base for the final inning of a 10-0 win over St. Louis. Gehrig would make a handful of "relief" appearances in 1923, spending most of the season with the minor league Hartford Senators. But when Pipp twisted his ankle stepping off a train car in Boston that September, Gehrig capitalized on the opportunity. He went 9-for-19 with five extra-base hits — including his first career home run — in four games at Fenway Park, spurring Yankees manager Miller Huggins to petition Landis to have Gehrig be eligible for the World Series. (Giants manager John McGraw would have none of it.)

July Fourth at Yankee Stadium has long been a date worth circling on the calendar — a holiday tradition that began in 1923 when an Independence Day doubleheader sweep of Washington capped an 8-0 homestand. The Yankees' league lead had ballooned from five games to 11½, and there was no turning back.

While the team maintained its 12-game lead during a 6-6 "Western" road trip to St. Louis, Chicago, Detroit and Cleveland in mid-to-late August, another promoter named Tex — Tex Austin — laid down 100,000 feet of cocoa fiber and held a championship rodeo at Yankee Stadium.

The Yanks wrapped up their third straight flag on Sept. 17. And on the last day of the regular season, Oct. 7, Ruth went 2-for-3 and hit his major league–leading 41st homer in a 9-7 loss to Philadelphia that raised his average to .394 — still a team record — and cemented a grip on his first and only AL MVP Award. (Though it should be noted that players of that era were not eligible to win the award multiple times.)

None of those stats or awards meant much to Ruth, though. McGraw and the hated New York Giants had won their third straight NL pennant, and if you thought they enjoyed beating the Yankees in the World Series when it was held entirely at the Polo Grounds, just imagine what they thought about the prospect of spoiling a party at the Yankees' fancy new home across the river.

Ruth and his teammates had other plans.

As retold in Robert Weintraub's excellent 2011 book, *The House That Ruth Built*, the Giants thought so little of Yankee Stadium that they put on their uniforms at the Polo Grounds and took taxis across the Macombs Dam Bridge for the 1923 World Series opener. McGraw, in his tailored suit, walked.

The Giants puffed their chests out even more after the first World Series game at Yankee Stadium, another Wednesday

afternoon affair, when their 33-year-old veteran center fielder, Casey Stengel, legged out a ninth-inning inside-the-park-home run in a 5-4 Giants win. They stood three wins away from being baseball's first three-peat champions.

But "The Battle of Broadway" was far from a wrap.

The Yankees answered back with a 4-2 win at the Polo Grounds in Game 2 on Thursday afternoon behind two home runs from Ruth. On Friday afternoon, the Giants' Art Nehf threw a six-hit 1-0 shutout in 2 hours and 7 minutes, and Stengel, thumbing his nose at the Yankees' bench as he rounded the bases following his seventh-inning solo homer, was once again the difference-maker.

The Giants' momentum was stalled over the weekend, though, as the "Hugmen" erupted for eight runs on Saturday in Manhattan and again on Sunday in the Bronx (in front of a capacity crowd of 62,817) to take a 3-games-to-2 lead in the Series.

And on Monday, Oct. 15, 1923, the Yankees traveled across the Harlem River one more time, back to the horseshoe-shaped ballpark they had called home for the previous decade, and where their quest for the franchise's first World Series championship had come up short in each of the last two seasons.

For seven innings, it was all Giants, as the Yankees trailed, 4-1. But after Ward popped out to begin the eighth, the next four Yankees batters all reached base, cutting the deficit to 4-2. McGraw reluctantly pulled an exhausted Nehf and called on Rosy Ryan, who walked the first batter he faced on four pitches to force in a run and bring up Ruth with the bases loaded in a one-run game.

Ryan may have been just 25 years old, but the Massachusetts native had plenty of experience under his belt. He had relieved Nehf in the eighth inning of the 1922 World Series opener, striking out Ruth to end that frame before facing the minimum three batters in the ninth.

On Oct. 10, 1923, more than 55,000 fans poured into the Bronx on a Wednesday afternoon to witness the first World Series game at Yankee Stadium. Casey Stengel legged out a ninth-inning inside-the-park home run to propel the Giants to a 5-4 win in the opener, but "The Battle of Broadway" was far from over. Five days later, the Yankees would ride a five-run eighth-inning rally to a 6-4 win at the Polo Grounds and a 4-games-to-2 victory in the Series for the franchise's first world championship.

Ryan went right after Ruth again, striking out the Great Bambino on four pitches.

The 1923 Yankees weren't solely reliant on Ruth, though. They were a *team*. Despite being mostly the same cast of characters that won AL pennants in '21 and '22, the '23 Yanks were "wholly different in morale, discipline and team play," wrote the editors of *Reach's Official Base Ball Guide*. "From being a mob of temperamental and ill-disciplined stars, each intent on playing in his own way and for himself, it was changed, overnight as it were, into a harmonious and co-operative whole, obedient to Manager Huggins' every command, and always playing the game as it should be played, with an eye single to the common good."

The next hitter, Bob Meusel, hit a ground ball up the middle that, after an errant throw from center field, cleared the bases. The Yankees went on to win, 6-4, capturing their first World Series championship. Meusel finished with a Series-best eight RBI, Ward paced the Yanks with 10 hits in the six games, and Ruth slugged 1.000, clubbing three home runs, a double and a triple among his seven hits. Herb Pennock, traded from the Red Sox in January, was the pitching hero, winning Games 2 and 6 and recording the final four outs of Game 4.

The players celebrated their triumph jubilantly, albeit without Champagne in the Prohibition-era visiting clubhouse. Ruth made a short speech from atop a table, telling his teammates that they all owed a debt of gratitude to "the guiding hand of Mr. Huggins." But perhaps no one was more satisfied than Col. Jacob Ruppert, the wealthy Knickerbocker beer baron who, after eight years of co-owning the team with Col. Tillinghast L'Hommedieu Huston, bought out his partner in May of 1923 to become sole owner of the Yankees. Legendary sportswriter Damon Runyon observed that Ruppert was "a pleasant picture of absolute happiness" as he exited the Polo Grounds following the Yankees' ultimate victory.

"New York born, New York raised, a big towner to his marrow, it has been Colonel Ruppert's great desire for eight years to bring an American League pennant and an American League world's championship to his home town, to his own baseball yard," Runyon wrote. "He has succeeded."

One hundred years later, that same desire drives the 2023 New York Yankees toward a 28th world championship. And as the world has witnessed over the past century, at the corner of 161st Street and River Avenue, anything is possible.

Following the command of their manager, Miller Huggins [middle row, C], the 1923 Yankees evolved from a "mob of temperamental and ill-disciplined stars ... into a harmonious and co-operative whole." A team in the truest sense, the '23 Yanks christened their new home in the greatest way possible, setting the tone for the decades to come at Yankee Stadium.

SIMPLY THE BEST

Hank Grazioso brought warmth and integrity to the Yankees' ticket window for more than two decades | By Alfred Santasiere III

Most people don't start a new career at the age of 65, and they certainly don't often do so with the baseball team that they were passionate about since birth. But in the case of Hank Grazioso, that scenario was not a pipe dream. It was his reality.

Grazioso, who served as a ticket office representative for the Yankees since 2000, passed away in January at 88 years old.

In the chapters of his life that preceded his time with the Yankees, Grazioso attended Seton Hall University, served in the United States Marine Corps and sold communications systems to hospitals for a living. He raised two boys and three girls, and spent far too many days with them at Yankee Stadium to count. His nine grandchildren would later become his great joy in life.

A Mickey Mantle loyalist, Grazioso turned his passion into his livelihood when he was assigned to ticket window 61 at the old Stadium. But his work with the Yankees was always more than just a job.

"He loved it here," said Yankees senior director of ticket operations James Traynor, who began working with Grazioso in 2001. "It represented a great second half of his life. You couldn't get to work before him; he was at the Stadium by 6 in the morning every day, sitting at the window with a cup of black coffee."

Grazioso also brought a profound sense of pride to the office, and that influenced those around him.

"When you first started at the ticket window, Hank would let you know how to do things," said Yankees director of ticket operations Scott Liller, who joined the Yankees in 2006. "He showed you everything. If you did it the way he liked to do things, which was always the right way, you were in his good graces."

About a year into his tenure with the team, Grazioso lost both of his sons during the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Both in their early 40s with wives and children of their own, Grazioso's sons worked in the World Trade Center for Cantor Fitzgerald — Tim as COO for over-the-counter training with the company and John as an eSpeed salesman.

Despite the incredible heartbreak, Grazioso — along with vice president of ticket operations Frank Swaine, who also lost a son that day, and who passed away in December 2021 — continued to do his job at the highest level for years to come.

"His boys were always with him," Traynor said. "He would talk about them all the time. At the old Stadium, he had a magnet with their photos that was right in his line of sight. I think that this place helped him heal as much as you could ever heal from something like that. I think that being here helped him continue to have that closeness with them after they were gone."

In the two decades between 9/11 and his last day at the Stadium in 2021, Grazioso — who twice took the mound at Yankee Stadium to throw ceremonial first pitches honoring his sons — left an indelible mark on his colleagues through friendship.

"I flew on a private jet with him to the Kentucky Derby in 2009," Liller said. "He put the whole trip together and invited me and a few others. We've also been to Atlantic City a bunch of times, and when we would go out after the work, he would be in the city with us."

"When I was 20 years old, if you had told me that one of my best friends in the world would be this guy who was 45 years older than me, I wouldn't have believed it," Traynor said. "But he became one of my dearest friends."

Grazioso's kindhearted nature also extended to the fans to whom he so easily related.

"Whenever a father comes by his window with his sons, my dad always does whatever he can to get them tickets," Grazioso's daughter, Carolee, told ESPN in 2011. "He pictures himself with Tim and John."

When he wasn't selling tickets, Grazioso was telling stories. As a child, he met Babe Ruth at his parents' vegetable stand in New Jersey, and a lifetime later, he spoke with Derek Jeter when the two were seated near each other at a restaurant in Turks and Caicos. The idea that he was one of the only people in history who had conversations with those two Yankees luminaries was not lost on Grazioso.

"He had a story for everything," Traynor said. "It was the backbone of his personality."

As for his colleagues in the Yankees ticket office, they'll carry on with heavy hearts but always with their chief supporter in mind.

"He was the heartbeat of this entire operation," Traynor said. "He continues to be, because of the things he put in place over the years. He made sure that we were meticulously prepared for the customers. The windows were always immaculate, and the seating charts were in the exact same spot on every window. He made sure that this place looked the way it should because, well, we're the Yankees."

That distinction of being a Yankee brought immense pride to Grazioso. But as everyone who worked with him will tell you, the Yankees were the lucky ones to have called Grazioso one of their own.

KIDS CORNER

FUN WITH PHOTOS

HOW GOOD IS YOUR EYE FOR DETAIL? THE PHOTO ON THE BOTTOM HAS 10 CHANGES. CAN YOU FIND THEM?

ANSWER KEY FOR ALL PUZZLES ON PAGE 194

WORD FIND

YANKEES CAPTAINS

T	H	X	I	V	W	R	O	W	G	O	U	S	Z	R
H	T	U	R	M	V	I	T	C	U	S	E	L	T	G
G	I	R	H	E	G	N	J	I	M	L	C	G	K	H
O	F	E	Q	U	O	T	P	C	T	T	H	A	X	N
A	F	L	I	O	I	O	O	T	E	P	A	F	H	G
E	I	D	L	E	F	R	E	B	L	E	N	R	I	H
A	R	Y	Z	K	Q	N	R	O	V	C	C	Z	E	T
Y	G	U	E	N	J	U	D	G	E	K	E	I	X	A
F	E	R	S	L	S	N	R	E	K	I	V	O	U	W
T	O	K	Q	F	A	T	H	A	D	N	D	C	P	N
L	U	E	T	R	N	J	O	E	O	P	S	H	Y	T
E	L	E	N	E	L	S	R	H	E	A	M	A	D	G
P	Y	L	G	N	I	T	T	A	M	U	N	S	O	N
S	R	E	T	E	J	H	O	T	Q	G	O	E	H	P
T	W	R	S	R	T	E	H	S	T	H	J	K	W	D

Clark GRIFFITH
Kid ELBERFELD
Willie KEELER
Hal CHASE
Frank CHANCE
Rollie ZEIDER
Roger PECKINPAUGH
Babe RUTH
Lou GEHRIG
Thurman MUNSON
Graig NETTLES
Ron GUIDRY
Willie RANDOLPH
Don MATTINGLY
Derek JETER
Aaron JUDGE

WHO AM I?

At the start of my eighth season, I was named the 10th captain in Yankees history, the first player since Lou Gehrig to receive that honor.

Until Aaron Judge joined me last year, I was the only player in Yankees history to win the AL Rookie of the Year Award and an AL MVP Award.

The locker that I used during my playing days has been seen by millions of visitors to the New York Yankees Museum.

ANSWER KEY FOR ALL PUZZLES ON PAGE 194

KIDS CORNER

KIDS TRIVIA — YANKEES CAPTAINS

Christmas came early for Yankees fans this past December, as superstar Aaron Judge signed a long-term deal that will keep him in pinstripes through 2031. At the Dec. 21 press conference to officially welcome Judge back to New York, Yankees managing general partner Hal Steinbrenner added to the excitement by also naming Judge the 16th captain in team history. Let's see how well you know his predecessors ...

1. Serving as the Yankees' first captain from 1903 to 1905, this "Old Fox" would spend nearly 70 years in baseball, becoming the only person to serve as a player, manager and owner for at least 20 years each.

A) Hal Chase

B) "Wee" Willie Keeler

C) Roger Peckinpaugh

D) Clark Griffith

2. Which 27-year-old Yankees star got called out trying to stretch a single into a double, threw dirt in the umpire's face, then leapt into the stands and chased a heckler around the Polo Grounds following his ejection, thus ending his captaincy after just six games?

A) Babe Ruth B) Billy Martin

C) Reggie Jackson D) Don Mattingly

3. From the day Yankee Stadium opened in 1923 through the two-year period in the mid-1970s when it was closed for renovations, who was the only player to hold the title of official Yankees captain?

A) Babe Ruth B) Lou Gehrig

C) Joe DiMaggio D) Mickey Mantle

JUDGE [L] AND JETER

4. Which one of these players was *not* a Yankees captain during the 1980s?

A) Graig Nettles

B) Willie Randolph

C) Ron Guidry

D) Don Mattingly

5. In what year was Derek Jeter named captain?

A) 1996 B) 2000

C) 2003 D) 2008

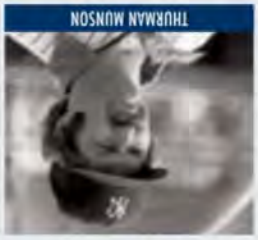
ANSWERS

FUN WITH PHOTOS

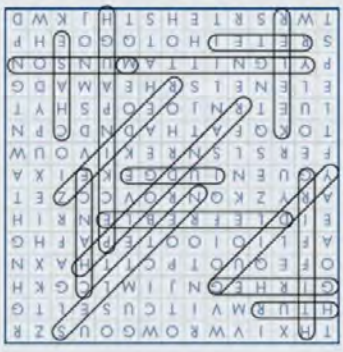
1. Added pile of baseballs to warning track dirt
2. Added bucket of gum to dugout railing
3. Enlarged Aaron Judge's right hand
4. Removed Bank of America logo from dugout railing
5. Changed Judge's jersey to road gray
6. Added NY logo to Judge's bat
7. Removed No. 99 from Judge's belt
8. Changed color of Judge's cleats to red
9. Replaced Gatorade towel with plain white towel
10. Added squirrel to dugout roof

TRIVIA WHO AM I?

1. D
2. A
3. B
4. D
5. C



THURMAN MUNSON



PlayStation

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PORTKEY GAMES

TEEN T ESRB

Fantasy Violence
Blood
Mild Language
Use of Alcohol

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PLAY HAS NO LIMITS™

BROADCASTERS

DAVID CONE
YES Network

JACK CURRY
YES Network

JOHN FLAHERTY
YES Network

MICHAEL KAY
YES Network

BOB LORENZ
YES Network

MEREDITH MARAKOVITS
YES Network

JEFF NELSON
YES Network

NANCY NEWMAN
YES Network

PAUL O'NEILL
YES Network

RICKIE RICARDO
WADO

FRANCISCO RIVERA
WADO

RYAN RUOCCO
YES Network

JUSTIN SHACKIL
YES Network

CHRIS SHEARN
YES Network

JOHN STERLING
WFAN

SUZYN WALDMAN
WFAN

JOIN YANKEES UNIVERSE

TWO MEMBERSHIP TIERS AVAILABLE

ROOKIE MEMBERSHIP $59.95

- 2023 Yankees Universe member card
- New York Yankees T-shirt
- Two (2) Main Level tickets to a select 2023 regular-season home game*

EXPLORER MEMBERSHIP $24.95

- 2023 Yankees Universe member card
- Two (2) Terrace Level Outfield tickets to a select 2023 regular-season home game*

ALL MEMBERS OF YANKEES UNIVERSE ALSO ENJOY EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS, INCLUDING:

- At Bat for computer and mobile devices
- Access to members-only website
- 10 percent off a single-eligible order at the yankees.com Online Shop*

TO BECOME A MEMBER, VISIT YANKEES.COM/UNIVERSE

*Terms and conditions apply. A portion of Yankees Universe proceeds goes to the Yankees Universe Fund at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

STADIUM GUIDE

CASHLESS TRANSACTIONS
To reduce and avoid contact between cash and food/retail handling, all Yankee Stadium retail food and beverage locations will be cashless and will only accept credit/debit cards, advanced purchases and touchless payments. Additionally, mobile ordering and pick up through Uber Eats will be available at select stands on the Field, Main and Terrace Levels. For Guests who wish to pay with cash, cash conversion stations (i.e., reverse ATM machines) will be available in the Great Hall at Section 110, at Section 128, at Section 223 and at Section 320C, issuing no-fee, prepaid debit cards starting at $1 minimum denomination. The prepaid debit card can be used at any food or retail location inside the Stadium. Any remaining funds left on the prepaid debit card can be used anywhere that Mastercard is accepted.

ENTRY AND CARRY-IN POLICY
NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to metal detector and physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into the Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of the Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry. For security reasons, each Guest is permitted to bring into Yankee Stadium only one MLB-compliant bag — presently defined by Major League Baseball as soft-sided and no larger than 16 inches by 16 inches by 8 inches — and only one smaller-sized soft-sided personal item (e.g., a handbag, clutch, tote or plastic grocery bag). All hard-sided bags and containers are strictly prohibited. All MLB-compliant bags, personal items and their contents are subject to a physical search and/or X-ray screening before they are permitted into the Stadium. **Please note: There is no storage area for any items at Yankee Stadium.** For more information regarding the entry and carry-in policy, please visit yankees.com. Re-entry is not permitted. Please note security regulations may be amended at any time.

EXIT/RE-ENTRY
Guests are not permitted to leave Yankee Stadium and return on the same ticket. Re-entry will be permitted only in the case of an emergency. In the event of an emergency, please see security personnel prior to exiting the Stadium.

GAME-DAY MESSAGES
Place a message on the Pepsi Fan Marquee in center field or on the video board in left-center field during Yankees home games. For more information and to order a message, please visit yankees.com/scoreboard.

GATE LOCATIONS AND OPENINGS
Yankee Stadium has four gate locations for entry and exit:
Gate 2, adjacent to left field: Enter via Jerome Avenue and East 164th Street
Gate 4, behind home plate: Enter via East 161st Street and Macombs Dam Bridge
Gate 6, adjacent to right field: Enter via East 161st Street and River Avenue
Gate 8, adjacent to center field: Enter via River Avenue and 164th Street

For Yankees games, gates will open 90 minutes prior to the scheduled first pitch.

For New York City FC matches, gates will open 90 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the match. For the Bad Boy Mowers Pinstripe Bowl game, gates will open two hours prior to the scheduled start time of the game, subject to change.

Please note that gate openings for all other public events will be announced as the date(s) for those events approach. Gate openings are subject to change during inclement weather and for special events, doubleheaders, Opening Day, the Old-Timers' Day game and postseason play or at Yankee Stadium management's discretion. There may be a point during a game, match or event when Guests may only enter through the Yankee Stadium Lobby, adjacent to Gate 2.

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES
Yankee Stadium's health and safety requirements are constantly changing in line with local and national directives. Please check www.yankees.com/updates for the most up-to-date information.

LOST AND FOUND
Anyone wishing to turn in a found item or inquire about a lost item may do so at the Guest Relations and Ticket Sales Booth, adjacent to Gate 6 in the Great Hall, or at the Yankee Stadium Lobby, adjacent to Gate 2. To inquire via phone, please call (718) 579-4413. Lost items turned in to Yankee Stadium management will be held at the Stadium for 10 days before being relinquished in accordance with New York State law.

MONUMENT PARK
Monument Park, located in center field, recognizes legends who have appeared at Yankee Stadium over the years. On game days, it opens with the gates and remains accessible for Guests' enjoyment until 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the game (subject to strict capacity limitations). Please note that the line to Monument Park may close earlier than the Park itself. Signage directs Guests to Monument Park. Yankee Stadium Team Members are also available to assist Guests.

NEW YORK YANKEES MUSEUM presented by BANK OF AMERICA
Ticketed Guests (subject to capacity limitations) can enjoy the museum free of charge when gates open until the end of the eighth inning for Yankees home games. Guests can also experience the museum as part of Yankee Stadium tours.

NURSING MOTHERS
A mother may nurse her child in any public location where she is comfortable. Nursing mothers seeking more discreet accommodations are welcome to use the dedicated space in the Kids Clubhouse, subject to availability.

SMOKING POLICY
Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes, is prohibited in Yankee Stadium. There are no designated smoking areas, and re-entry is prohibited. The use of smokeless tobacco is also prohibited. Violators will be ejected immediately without refund and may face possible revocation of season tickets and/or future ticket privileges.

TITAN HST
Guests can confidentially text security and guest relations questions and concerns by texting SOS NYY to 848-261 (message and data rates may apply).

YANKEE STADIUM EVENTS
Make our history part of yours. Yankee Stadium is the perfect venue to host special occasions, corporate events, and photo shoots on the sport's grandest stage. For more information, please visit yankees.com/events, call (646) 977-8400 or email events@yankees.com.

YANKEE STADIUM SUITES
For information about suites at Yankee Stadium, please visit www.yankees.com/suites.

YANKEE STADIUM TOURS* presented by
Tour Yankee Stadium and absorb the rich history of the 27-time World Series champions. Visit iconic locations such as Monument Park, where the Bronx Bombers' greatest legends are enshrined. Discover the Yankees' heroes, milestones and winning tradition inside the New York Yankees Museum presented by Bank of America. See how Yankee Stadium offers experiences and events extending beyond the baseball field. Each tour is led by one of our knowledgeable tour guides.

For scheduling and ticket information, please visit www.yankees.com/tours, call (646) 977-TOUR, or email tours@yankees.com.

*The Yankees reserve the right to cancel all or part of any tour. If a tour date and/or time is canceled, all tickets will be refunded. ALL tour dates, times, locations and routes are subject to change without notice.

The number of innings in a regulation game shall be determined by Major League Baseball and may be shortened in accordance with Major League Baseball rules. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that nine (9) innings will be played in any regulation game.

The number of games in a regular season shall be determined by Major League Baseball. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that a regular season will be comprised of eighty-one (81) home games.

Please note that protective netting of varying heights is located between Section 011 on the first base/right-field side of the Stadium and continues to Section 029 on the third base/left-field side of the Stadium.

WARNING: For the safety of everyone in Yankee Stadium, all Guests must stay alert and be aware of their surroundings at all times, as during all batting practices, fielding practices and warm-ups and throughout the course of all baseball games and the baseball game experiences, hard-hit baseballs and bats and fragments thereof may be thrown or hit into the stands, concourses, walkways, concessions areas, Monument Park and all other publicly accessible areas within the Stadium. Further, Guests concerned with their original ticketed location by reason of the foregoing should, at any time before or during the baseball game or the baseball game experiences, proceed to the Guest Relations Booth, located adjacent to Gate 6 in the Great Hall or the Yankee Stadium Ticket Window, located adjacent to the Yankees Team Store behind home plate in the Great Hall; however, please remember that: (a) any requested relocation is subject to availability; (b) any alternate seat or standing location may be in a section and/or level of the Stadium and/or within a price category that is not in the same section and/or level and/or price category of the Guests' original ticketed location, regardless of their original ticketed location; and (c) any Guest requesting relocation is responsible for paying the incremental price increase, if any, of the ticket price for the available alternate location. Relocation to a seat or standing location at a lower price than the price of the original ticketed location will not result in a refund or credit.

WARNING: Guests may not transmit or aid in transmitting any photographs, images, videos, audio, livestreams or other accounts or descriptions (including play-by-play data), whether text, data or visual, in any media, now known or hereafter developed, of all or any part of the game or related events, without the express written consent of the Yankees.

NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to: (a) being screened by metal detectors; (b) bag/clothing inspections; and (c) physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into the Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of the Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry.

NOTICE: The Yankees reserve the right, with or without refunding any amount paid by the ticket holder, to refuse admission to and/or eject any person who: (a) is or appears to be impaired; (b) conceals alcohol, illegal substances and/or other prohibited items while attempting to enter Yankee Stadium; (c) acts in a manner that is unruly, disruptive or illegal; (d) uses derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures; (e) displays and/or wears and fails to cover obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing; (f) exposes him/herself; (g) otherwise violates the Stadium's Code of Conduct, ordinances, rules, requirements, directives, regulations; or (h) interferes with any ball in the field of play or any sports or event participant attempting to make a play on any batted, pitched or thrown baseball. Ticket holders acknowledge and agree that the Yankees' ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing (i.e., clauses (d) through (f) above) does not violate their right to free speech and/or expression and that such time, place and manner of the restrictions are reasonable to maintain a family-friendly atmosphere for minors, ensure the safety of all Guests and sports or event participants, and preserve the enjoyment of the game or event for all Guests. In addition, ticket holders further acknowledge and agree that by entering the Stadium, they hereby consent to the ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing and waive, to the fullest extent they may legally and effectively do so, any objection they may now or hereafter have to such ban and the penalties that the Yankees may impose for any violation of the same.

STADIUM MAP & DIRECTIONS

FOR INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

ticketmaster

yankees.com yankeesbeisbol.com

FOR TICKET INFORMATION, INCLUDING PRICING, PLEASE VISIT YANKEES.COM OR CALL (212) YANKEES.

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Yankee Stadium is located at One East 161st Street in the Bronx and is accessible from the Major Deegan Expressway (Interstate 87) at the following exits:

Northbound I-87: Exit 4 (East 149th Street/145th Street Bridge) and Exit 5 (East 161st Street/Macombs Dam Bridge)

Southbound I-87: Exit 6 (East 153rd Street/River Ave.) and Exit 5 (East 161st St./Macombs Dam Bridge)

For drivers using GPS, please plug the following address into your GPS unit:
One East 161st Street, Bronx, New York.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

By Subway: The No. 4 train (East Side) and the D train (Sixth Avenue) make stops at the 161st Street/Yankee Stadium subway station, located on East 161st Street and River Avenue. B train (Sixth Avenue) service is also available, but only on weekdays. For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

By Bus: Several New York City bus lines provide service to the Stadium. The Bx6 and Bx13 buses stop at East 161st Street and River Avenue; the Bx1 and Bx2 buses stop at East 161st Street and the Grand Concourse, a short walk from the Stadium; and the BxM4 stops at the Grand Concourse and East 161st Street (northbound) and East 158th Street (southbound). For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

By Train: Metro-North offers train service to the Stadium. For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

PREPAID PARKING*

The Yankees neither control nor operate the parking lots and garages surrounding the Stadium and are not responsible for setting parking lot rates, refund policies, rules and/or procedures. City Parking was granted those rights, including responsibility for establishing and controlling parking rates, refund policies, rules and/or procedures, by New York City. Prepaid individual-game parking must be obtained from City Parking. For more information, please visit City Parking at www.cityparking.nyc or call City Parking at (718) 588-7817. For Yankees Season Ticket Licensees, full- and partial-season parking packages can be purchased at a discount off the game-day parking rate. Licensees should contact their Yankees representative at (212) YANKEES for more information.

*Visit www.cityparking.nyc or call (718) 588-7817 throughout the season for lot availability.

Time, opponent, date, team rosters and lineups are subject to change.

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Be advised that the Yankees reserve the right to take appropriate action against individuals who fraudulently obtain wheelchair accessible and/or companion seats, including, without limitation, ejection and legal action.

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WARNING: For the safety of everyone in Yankee Stadium, all Guests must stay alert and be aware of their surroundings at all times, as during all batting practices, fielding practices and warm-ups and throughout the course of all baseball games and the baseball game experiences, hard-hit baseballs and bats and fragments thereof may be thrown or hit into the stands, concourses, walkways, concessions areas, Monument Park and all other publicly accessible areas within the Stadium. Further, Guests concerned with their original ticketed location by reason of the foregoing should, at any time before or during the baseball game or the baseball game experiences, proceed to the Guest Relations Booth, located adjacent to Gate 6 in the Great Hall or the Yankee Stadium Ticket Window, located adjacent to the Yankees Team Store behind home plate in the Great Hall; however, please remember that: (a) any requested relocation is subject to availability; (b) any alternate seat or standing location may be in a section and/or level of the Stadium and/or within a price category that is not in the same section and/or level and/or price category of the Guests' original ticketed location, regardless of their original ticketed location; and (c) any Guest requesting relocation is responsible for paying the incremental price increase, if any, of the ticket price for the available alternate location. Relocation to a seat or standing location at a lower price than the price of the original ticketed location will not result in a refund or credit.

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CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

FIELD LEVEL

PLEASE NOTE THAT PROTECTIVE NETTING OF VARYING HEIGHTS IS USED IN THE STADIUM FROM SECTION 011 TO BEHIND HOME PLATE TO SECTION 029.

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

- **FIRST BASE TEAM STORE** — SECTIONS 114A–114B
- **MONUMENT PARK STORE** — SECTION 103
- **YANKEES MERCHANDISE** — SECTIONS 130 & 135 & PEPSI FOOD COURT
- **YANKEES TEAM STORES** — GATE 6 & BEHIND HOME PLATE

DESTINATIONS

- **CUTWATER LOUNGE** — SECTIONS 011-013
- **DRAFTKINGS SPORTSBOOK LOUNGE** — SECTIONS 027B-029
- **FORD FIELD MVP CLUB** — BEHIND HOME PLATE
- **HARD ROCK CAFE YANKEE STADIUM** — GATE 6
- **LEGENDS SUITE CLUB** — ADJACENT TO GATE 4
- **MONUMENT PARK** — CENTER FIELD
- **PEPSI LOUNGE** — CENTER FIELD
- **SPORTS LOUNGE** — SECTION 134
- **YANKEES STEAKHOUSE (VIA ELEVATOR)** — ABOVE HARD ROCK CAFE AT GATE 6

AMENITIES

- ATM BANK OF AMERICA
- CASH TO CARD KIOSK
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

- **BEER** — SECTION 110
- **BENIHANA** — SECTION 127
- **BOBBY'S BURGER PALACE** — SECTION 132
- **CHEESESTEAKS** — SECTION 107
- **CITY WINERY** — SECTION 105
- **COCKTAIL BAR** — PEPSI FOOD COURT
- **GARLIC FRIES** — SECTION 108
- **GLUTEN-FREE GRILL** — GREAT HALL
- **KING'S HAWAIIAN GRILL** — SECTION 115
- **KOSHER*** — GREAT HALL
- **LOBEL'S** — SECTION 133
- **MIGHTY QUINN'S** — SECTION 132
- **NATHAN'S FAMOUS** — SECTION 127
- **OATLY** — SECTION 110
- **THE HALAL GUYS** — GREAT HALL
- **SABRETT** — SECTIONS 111 & 125
- **STREETBIRD** — SECTION 112
- **UBER EATS PICKUP** — SECTIONS 107 & 115
- **WINGS OF NY** — SECTION 109
- **YANKEE STADIUM GRAND SLAM SHAKES** — SECTIONS 112 & 125

*NOT AVAILABLE DURING FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY GAMES/EVENTS OR DURING GAMES/EVENTS THAT FALL ON CERTAIN RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

MAIN/BLEACHERS LEVELS

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USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

- **NEW ERA TEAM STORE** — BEHIND HOME PLATE
- **YANKEES MERCHANDISE** — SECTION 236

DESTINATIONS

- **DELTA SKY360°SUITE** — SECTIONS 218A-222
- **FRESHDIRECT TERRACE** — ADJACENT TO SECTION 238
- **LEGACY CLUB BOOTH** — SECTION 221
- **MICHELOB ULTRA CLUBHOUSE** — ADJACENT TO SECTIONS 207 & 208
- **NEW YORK YANKEES MUSEUM** — PRESENTED BY BANK OF AMERICA — ADJACENT TO SECTION 210
- **STELLA ARTOIS LANDING** — ADJACENT TO SECTION 232A & 232B
- **T-MOBILE FAN ZONE** — BEHIND HOME PLATE
- **TOYOTA TERRACE** — ADJACENT TO SECTION 202

AMENITIES

- CASH TO CARD KIOSK
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

- **BEER** — SECTIONS 206 & 226
- **BLUE POINT BLEACHER BAR** — SECTION 236
- **COCKTAILS** — SECTIONS 206 & 226
- **FUKU** — SECTION 213
- **GOOD HUMOR** — BLEACHERS
- **HIGHLANDERS** — SECTION 233
- **KOSHER*** — SECTION 214A
- **MAC TRUCK NYC** — SECTION 223
- **MASTERCARD BATTER'S EYE DECK** — BLEACHERS
- **NATHAN'S FAMOUS** — SECTION 225
- **OATLY** — SECTIONS 205, 224 & BLEACHERS
- **PREMIO SAUSAGE** — SECTION 217 & BLEACHERS
- **SUMO DOG** — SECTION 205 & BLEACHERS
- **TRIPLE PLAY GRILL** — SECTIONS 201 & 213
- **TRIPLE PLAY GRILL/GARLIC FRIES** — SECTION 205
- **UBER EATS PICKUP** — SECTIONS 200B, 213 & 224

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CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

TERRACE/GRANDSTAND LEVEL

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USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

YANKEES MERCHANDISE
SECTIONS 308 & 330

DESTINATIONS

BUDWEISER PARTY DECKS
SECTIONS 311 & 328

JIM BEAM SUITE LOUNGE
BEHIND HOME PLATE

KIDS CLUBHOUSE
ADJACENT TO SECTION 310

AMENITIES

- CASH TO CARD KIOSK
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

BEER
SECTIONS 312 & 322

COCKTAILS
SECTION 321

CRAFT BEER
SECTION 320

GARLIC FRIES
SECTION 331

GOOD HUMOR
SECTION 325

HIGHLANDERS
SECTIONS 305, 311, 318 & 325

KING'S HAWAIIAN GRILL
SECTION 334

KOSHER*
SECTION 322

LOBEL'S
SECTION 321

NATHAN'S FAMOUS
SECTION 313

OATLY
SECTIONS 305 & 318

THE HALAL GUYS
SECTION 321

TRIPLE PLAY GRILL
SECTIONS 321 & 326

UBER EATS PICKUP
SECTIONS 305, 318 & 324

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2023 SCHEDULE

MARCH/APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				30 1:05 YES SF	31	1 4:05 FOX SF
2 1:35 YES SF	3 7:05 YES PHI	4 7:05 PRIME PHI	5 1:05 YES PHI	6 3:05 YES BAL	7	8 7:05 YES BAL
9 1:35 YES BAL	10 8:10 YES CLE	11 6:10 YES CLE	12 1:10 YES CLE	13 7:05 YES MIN	14 7:05 YES MIN	15 1:05 YES MIN
16 1:35 YES MIN	17	18 7:05 YES LAA	19 7:05 PRIME LAA	20 4:05 YES LAA	21 7:05 APPLE+ TOR	22 1:05 YES TOR
23 1:35 YES TOR	24 7:40 YES MIN	25 7:40 YES MIN	26 1:10 YES MIN	27 8:05 YES TEX	28 8:05 YES TEX	29 7:05 YES TEX
30 2:35 YES TEX						

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 7:05 YES CLE	2 7:05 YES CLE	3 7:05 PRIME CLE	4	5 6:40 YES TB	6 4:10 YES TB
7 1:40 YES TB	8 7:05 YES OAK	9 7:05 YES OAK	10 12:35 YES OAK	11 7:05 YES TB	12 7:05 YES TB	13 1:05 YES TB
14 1:35 YES TB	15 7:07 YES TOR	16 7:07 YES TOR	17 7:07 PRIME TOR	18 7:07 YES TOR	19 6:40 YES CIN	20 4:10 YES CIN
21 11:55AM PCN CIN	22	23 7:05 YES BAL	24 7:05 PRIME BAL	25 7:05 YES BAL	26 7:05 APPLE+ SD	27 1:05 YES SD
28 1:35 YES SD	29 9:40 YES SEA	30 9:40 YES SEA	31 9:40 YES SEA			

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 10:10 YES LAD	3 7:18 FOX LAD
4 7:08 ESPN LAD	5	6 7:05 YES CWS	7 7:05 YES CWS	8 7:05 YES CWS	9 7:05 YES BOS	10 7:18 FOX BOS
11 1:35 YES BOS	12	13 7:10 YES NYM	14 7:10 YES NYM	15	16 7:10 YES BOS	17 7:18 FOX BOS
18 7:08 ESPN BOS	19	20 7:05 YES SEA	21 7:05 PRIME SEA	22 7:05 YES SEA	23 7:05 YES TEX	24 4:05 YES TEX
25 1:35 YES TEX	26	27 9:40 YES OAK	28 9:40 YES OAK	29 3:37 YES OAK	30 6:15 PRIME STL	

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 7:15 YES STL
2 2:15 YES STL	3 7:05 YES BAL	4 1:05 YES BAL	5 7:05 PRIME BAL	6 7:05 YES BAL	7 7:05 YES CHC	8 1:05 PRIME CHC
9 1:35 YES CHC	10	11	12	13	14 8:40 YES COL	15 8:10 YES COL
16 3:10 YES COL	17 9:38 YES LAA	18 9:38 YES LAA	19 7:07 PRIME LAA	20	21 7:05 YES KC	22 1:05 YES KC
23 1:35 YES KC	24	25 7:05 YES NYM	26 7:05 YES NYM	27	28 7:05 YES BAL	29 7:05 YES BAL
30 1:35 YES BAL	31 7:05 YES TB					

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 7:05 YES TB	2 7:05 PRIME TB	3 7:15 FOX HOU	4 7:05 PRIME HOU	5 1:05 YES HOU
6 1:35 YES HOU	7 8:10 YES CWS	8 8:10 YES CWS	9 8:10 YES CWS	10	11 6:40 YES MIA	12 4:10 YES MIA
13 1:40 YES MIA	14 7:20 YES ATL	15 7:20 YES ATL	16 7:20 PRIME ATL	17	18 7:05 PRIME BOS	19 1:05 YES BOS
20 1:35 YES BOS	21	22 7:05 YES WSH	23 7:05 YES WSH	24 1:05 YES WSH	25 6:40 YES TB	26 4:10 YES TB
27 1:40 YES TB	28 6:40 YES DET	29 6:40 YES DET	30 6:40 YES DET	31 1:10 YES DET		

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 8:10 PRIME HOU	2 7:10 YES HOU
3 2:10 YES HOU	4	5 7:05 YES DET	6 7:05 YES DET	7 7:05 YES DET	8 7:05 YES MIL	9 2:05 FOX MIL
10 1:35 YES MIL	11 7:10 PRIME BOS	12 7:10 YES BOS	13 7:10 PRIME BOS	14 7:10 FOX BOS	15 6:35 YES PIT	16 6:35 YES PIT
17 1:35 YES PIT	18	19 7:05 YES TOR	20 7:05 PRIME TOR	21 7:05 YES TOR	22 7:05 YES ARI	23 1:05 YES ARI
24 1:35 YES ARI	25	26 7:07 YES TOR	27 7:07 PRIME TOR	28 7:07 YES TOR	29 8:10 YES KC	30 7:10 YES KC
1 3:10 YES KC						

HOME AWAY

ALL GAMES ARE P.M., EASTERN TIME, EXCEPT MAY 21.

TIME, OPPONENT, DATE AND TEAM ROSTERS AND LINEUPS, INCLUDING THE YANKEES' ROSTER AND LINEUP, ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

*Listings noted with a red border and an asterisk (*) have game times subject to determination by, among others, MLB and its television partners. Any future start-time changes to these games will also be accompanied by a change in the television partner.

For Yankees ticket information, please visit yankees.com or call (212) YANKEES.

yankees.com yankeesbeisbol.com

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2023 YANKEES PROMOTIONAL DATES

DATE	ITEM	DISTRIBUTION	PRESENTED BY
March 30	Opening Day Commemorative Ticket	All Guests	
April 1	Calendar Day	1st 40,000 Guests	Mastercard
April 2	Calendar Day	1st 40,000 Guests	Mastercard
April 14	Tino Martinez Bobblehead Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Bank of America
April 18	Yankee Stadium 100th Anniversary Commemorative Ticket	All Guests	
May 12	Star Wars Night – Anthony Rizzo Mandalorian Bobblehead	1st 18,000 Guests	
May 26	Yankees Short Sleeve Hoodie Night	1st 18,000 Guests 21 and older	Budweiser
June 20	Yankees Beach Towel Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Wendy's
June 23	Yankees Marvel Superhero Night – Derek Jeter Captain America Bobblehead	1st 18,000 Guests	Delta Air Lines
June 25	Yankees Collectible Cup Day	1st 25,000 Guests	Premio Foods
July 7	Luis Severino Bobblehead Night	1st 18,000 Guests	T-Mobile
July 21	Nestor Cortes Bobblehead Night	1st 18,000 Guests	T-Mobile
July 22	Military Appreciation Day - Yankees Camo Cap	1st 18,000 Guests 21 and older	Budweiser
July 23	Yankees Oris Bear Mug Day	1st 18,000 Guests	Oris
July 31	Cap Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Canon
Aug. 2	John and Suzyn T-shirt Night	1st 18,000 Guests	WFAN
Aug. 4	Bucky Dent Bobblehead Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Benjamin Moore
Aug. 5	Yankees Baseball Card Pack Day	All Guests	Topps
Aug. 24	Yankees T-shirt Day	1st 15,000 Guests	SATO
Sept. 5	MLB Network Cap Night	1st 10,000 Guests	MLB Network
Sept. 7	Yankees Lightweight Hoodie Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Ford
Sept. 9	Old-Timers' Day presented by FreshDirect Old-Timers' Day Commemorative Ticket	All Guests	
Sept. 10	1998 Championship Replica Ring Day	1st 18,000 Guests	Betteridge Jewelers

Purchasing a ticket for any promotional date does not guarantee that a Guest will receive the designated promotional item. Distribution of promotional items is for eligible Guests in attendance only, while supplies last. All promotional dates, items and distribution are subject to change and/or cancellation.

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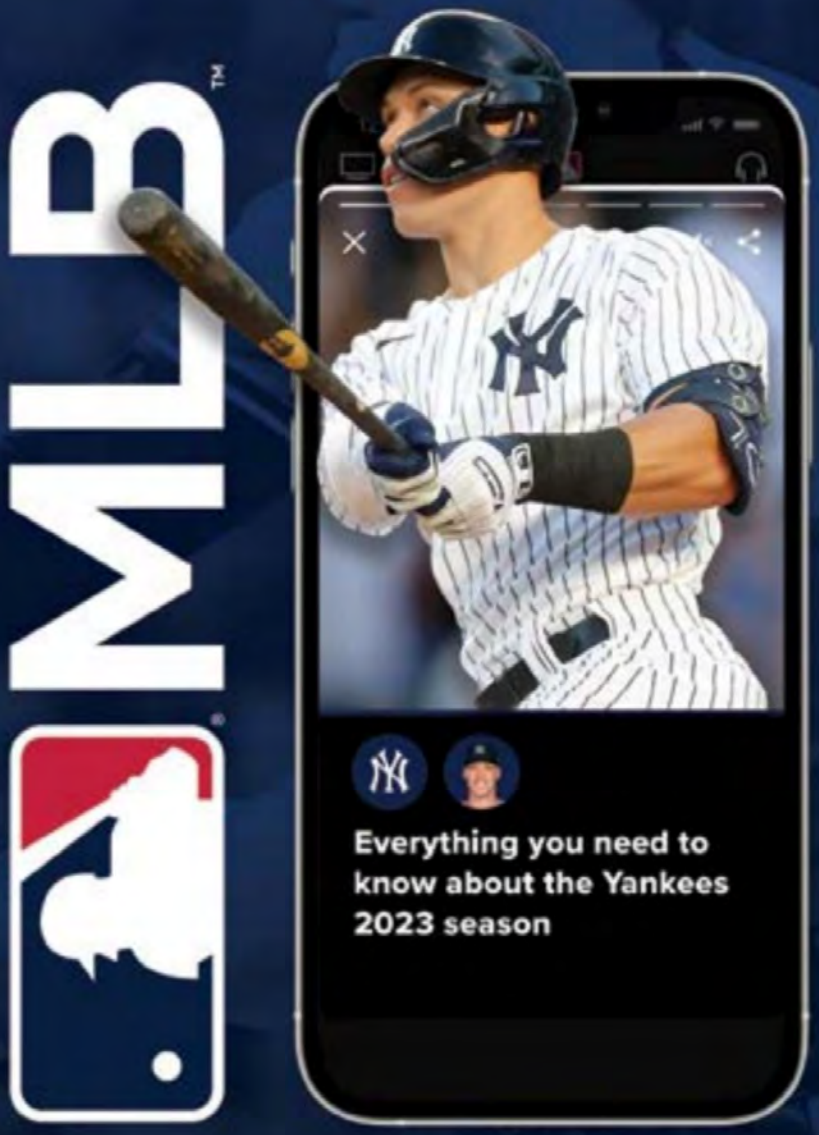

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NEW YORK YANKEES

Get access to everything Yankees everywhere you go. MLB is the #1 app for live Yankees baseball. Delivering live audio broadcasts with your favorite announcers, customizable favorite team features, breaking news, video highlights and much more.

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NEW YORK LOTTERY

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2023 ARIYA has limited availability. Contact your local dealer for inventory information. AWD expected availability early 2023 - subject to change. Pre-production model shown. Actual production model may vary.